

DALE, ARCH.

Five years of R.B. Bennett. (Winnipeg  
Free Press, 1936?)

Bennett, R.B.  
Rutherford

# FIVE YEARS OF R.B. BENNETT

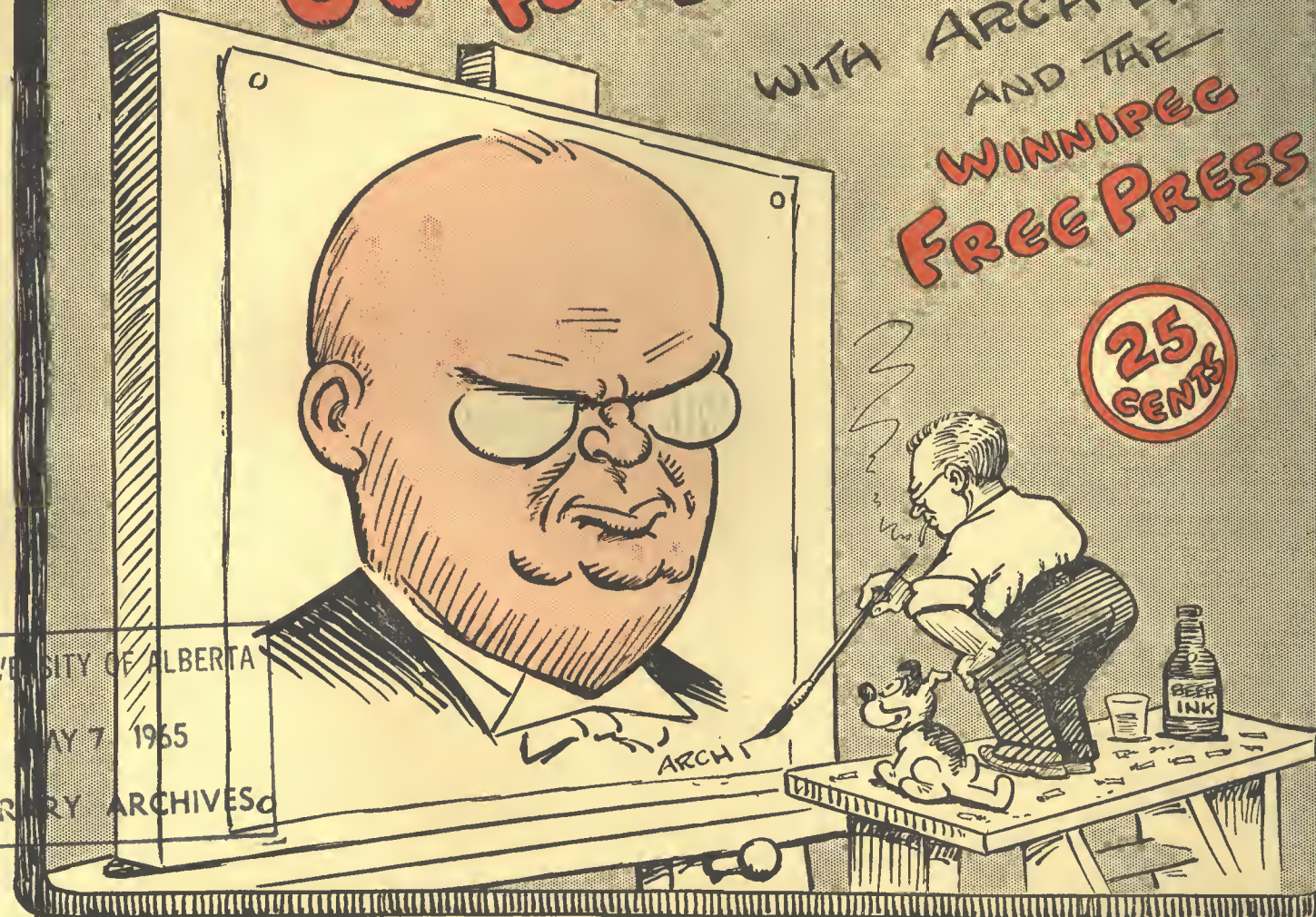
WITH ARCH DALE  
AND THE  
WINNIPEG  
FREE PRESS

25  
CENTS

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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*With regards.*

*J.W. Dufor*

FIVE YEARS OF  
R. B. BENNETT  
WITH  
ARCH DALE  
OF THE  
WINNIPEG FREE PRESS





### THE PRIME MINISTER

"The cloudy years have unfolded their misty wings and deposited him at the front bench to the Speaker's right as Prime Minister of Canada." (June, 1931.)

## FOREWORD

THE WINNIPEG FREE PRESS is proud to publish a little pictorial history of the Bennett Government, made up of 80 selected cartoons drawn by Arch Dale, its nationally-known staff artist. The cartoons have all appeared on the Editorial Page of the Free Press during the last five years.

The Free Press is proud of these cartoons for two reasons. The first of these—and modesty almost prevents it being said—is that the cartoons have been proved correct. A good cartoon is more than a comment on the news of the hour. It is also a prophecy of the effect that news will have in the future, and as our readers turn over the pages, they will see, again and again, that the deft turn of the drawing has emphasized the very fact which today, in the heat of the election campaign, is having the most telling effect.

And the second reason? Well, the Free Press is proud of its cartoonist, and proud of the way he does his job. Therefore it is pleasant to be able to pay him a little compliment by presenting some (not all) of his best work in more permanent form than the crumbling yellow pages of yesterday's newspapers. More power to Arch Dale. Long may he flourish.

Cartoonists are a queer lot. They thrive in the main upon other men's misfortunes. The result is that the years 1930 to 1935, during which the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett was Prime Minister of Canada, turned into a field-day for Arch Dale.

Everything was in Dale's favor. He was on the staff of a newspaper which was in strong opposition. Dale therefore got carte blanche on the subject of Mr. Bennett and all his works. It is, further, a recorded fact that all did not go well for Mr. Bennett, who therefore presented ever wider areas for vulnerable attack, and Arch Dale did not miss any bets. The result is that there is hardly an event of significance in the last five years that did not provide a target for the fun and wit and draughtsmanship of Arch Dale who, incidentally, had fun himself doing it. But the fun never grew broad or vulgar, and the satire was seldom, if ever, bitter, though it was sometimes concentrated.

At any rate, here they are: the history of five momentous years, told in political pictures; and with this introduction the story must be left to tell itself.

August, 1935.



Here is the author, Arch Dale himself, with the inevitable cigarette dangling from his lip. It is doubtful if he could draw a cartoon without a cigarette, and this leads up to the real reason why he is the Free Press cartoonist today.

Archie was born in Dundee, Scotland, and first began to develop his cartooning talent on the Dundee Courier. But the quiet (?) life of a cartoonist palled on him. He heard the call of the wild, and came to Canada to homestead, and believe it or not, he did homestead, too, 100 miles from a railway, in Saskatchewan. Life was hard, and Archie felt the need of a little extra cash to help him along, so he drew a cartoon and sent it to the Free Press. It was promptly accepted, and Archie drew more cartoons and with equal success. The trouble was, however, that (so he says) he had to walk into town to keep himself supplied with cigarettes. A hundred miles each way, a couple of times a week didn't

leave enough time for cartooning, so he dropped the homestead and came into Winnipeg to be nearer the cigarettes. Since then he has roamed far and wide. He worked for the Manchester Despatch where he replaced "Poy," who had gone to London. Then Dale also went to London where he joined the Harmsworth group. But he came back to Western Canada, his first love. A visit to New York and Chicago followed in order to syndicate his well known "Doo-Dads," but he hated both cities. The old lure of the west re-asserted itself, and eight years ago he came back to Winnipeg, and joined the Free Press. He says it's "for good," and the Free Press hopes so.

He still smokes incessantly, rolling his own and borrowing matches from the whole staff. The floor all round his drawing desk is pitted with small burns where he has thrown butts and flaming matches. He can draw anything, and can spell nothing, so the staff helps out. The staff also comes to the rescue now and again when an idea is lacking, and it is then possible to watch a cartoon from its very beginning.

A series of circles and lines appear like magic all over his drawing paper. They look like nothing and, to the outsider, mean still less. But, as you watch, the drawing takes shape and with almost incredible speed there emerges one of those clever drawings that interpret in sharp and humorous line some outstanding issue of the day. A few more strokes and the little dog appears, frequently serving a double purpose as sly comment on the picture and as Archie's signature. So well known is the dog that a few years ago a letter with nothing on the envelope but the little dog was safely delivered to Archie at the Free Press office.

That seems to be all that should be said about the author of "Five Years of R. B. Bennett," except perhaps one thing. Archie is married and has one daughter. He says that Julia is going to be a better cartoonist than he is.



### THE GRAND PANJANDRUM COMES TO OTTAWA

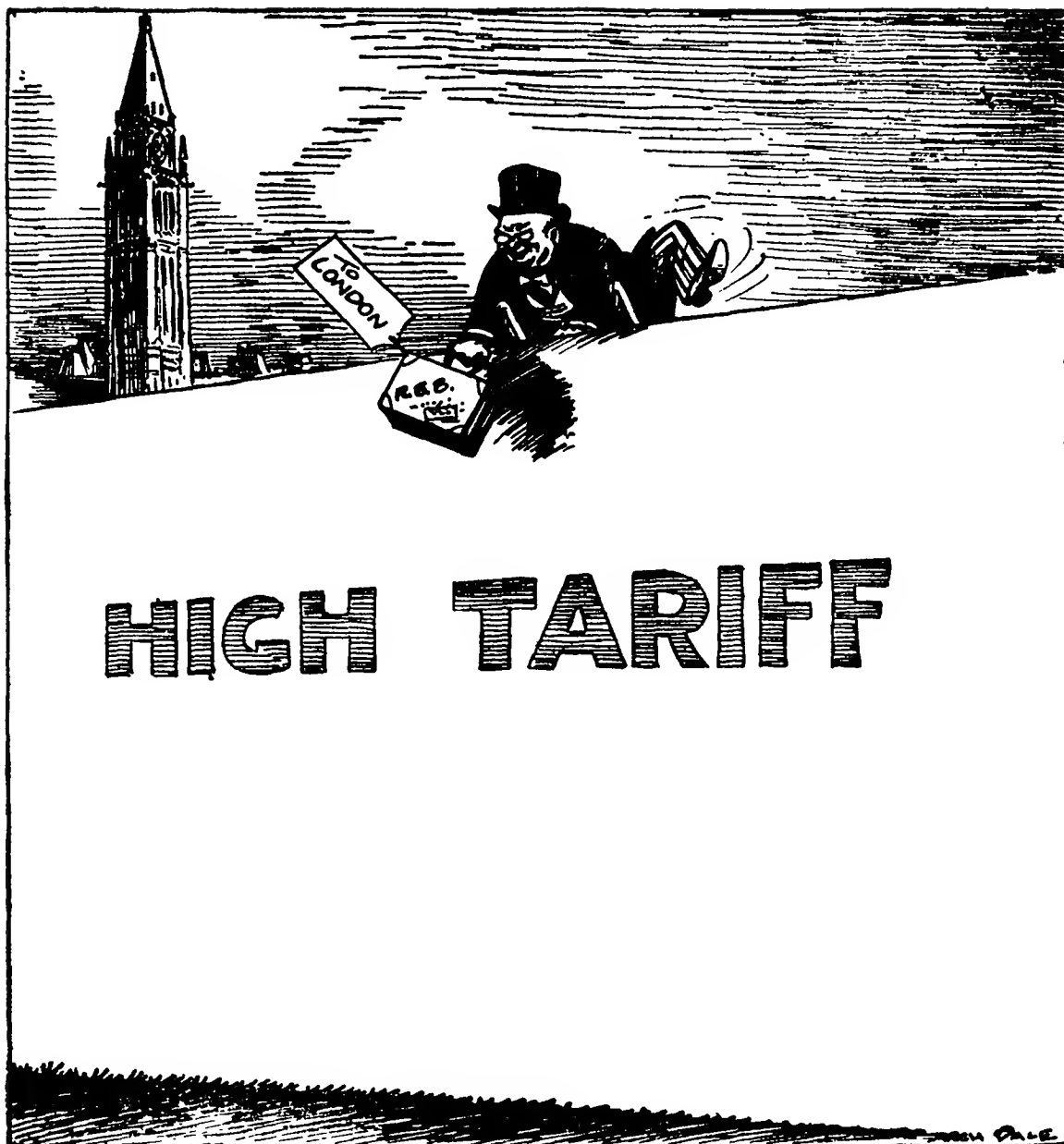
The General Election took place on July 28, 1930. The following day's Free Press depicted the new Prime Minister's triumphal entry. (July 29, 1930.)



### THE FIRST VISITOR

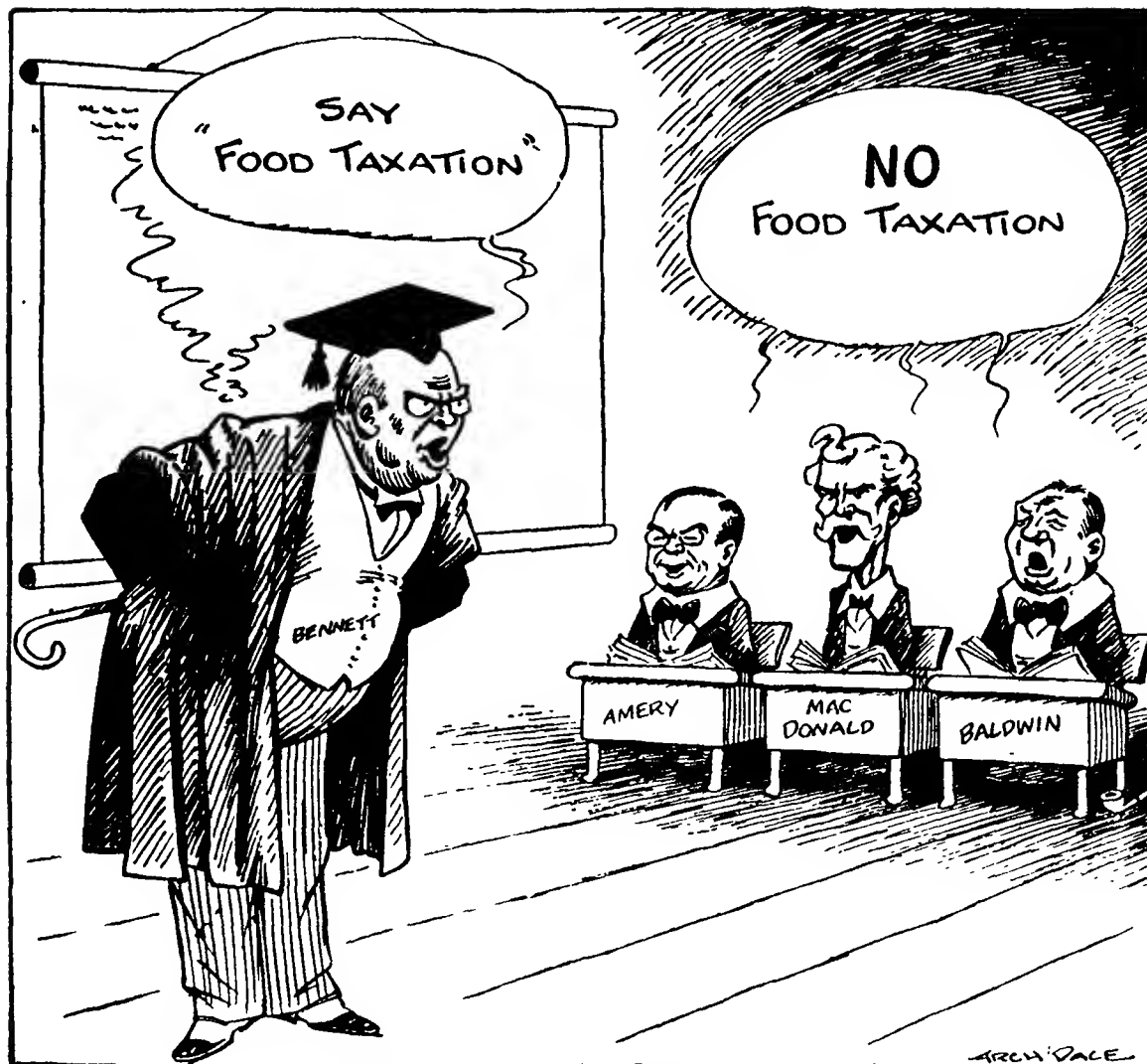
About a week later Dale set the tone of his work for the next five years with his first insistent hint that election promises were things to be taken seriously. (Aug. 8, 1930.)





### HE FOUND IT HARD TO GET OUT

After a short session of Parliament which saw the tariff raised higher than it had ever been before, Mr. Bennett sailed for London to the Imperial Conference. (Sept. 23, 1930.)



**THEY WON'T LEARN THE LESSON**

At the Imperial Conference Mr. Bennett strove in vain to get the British delegation to give preferences to Empire foodstuffs. No luck that time. (Nov. 5, 1930.)



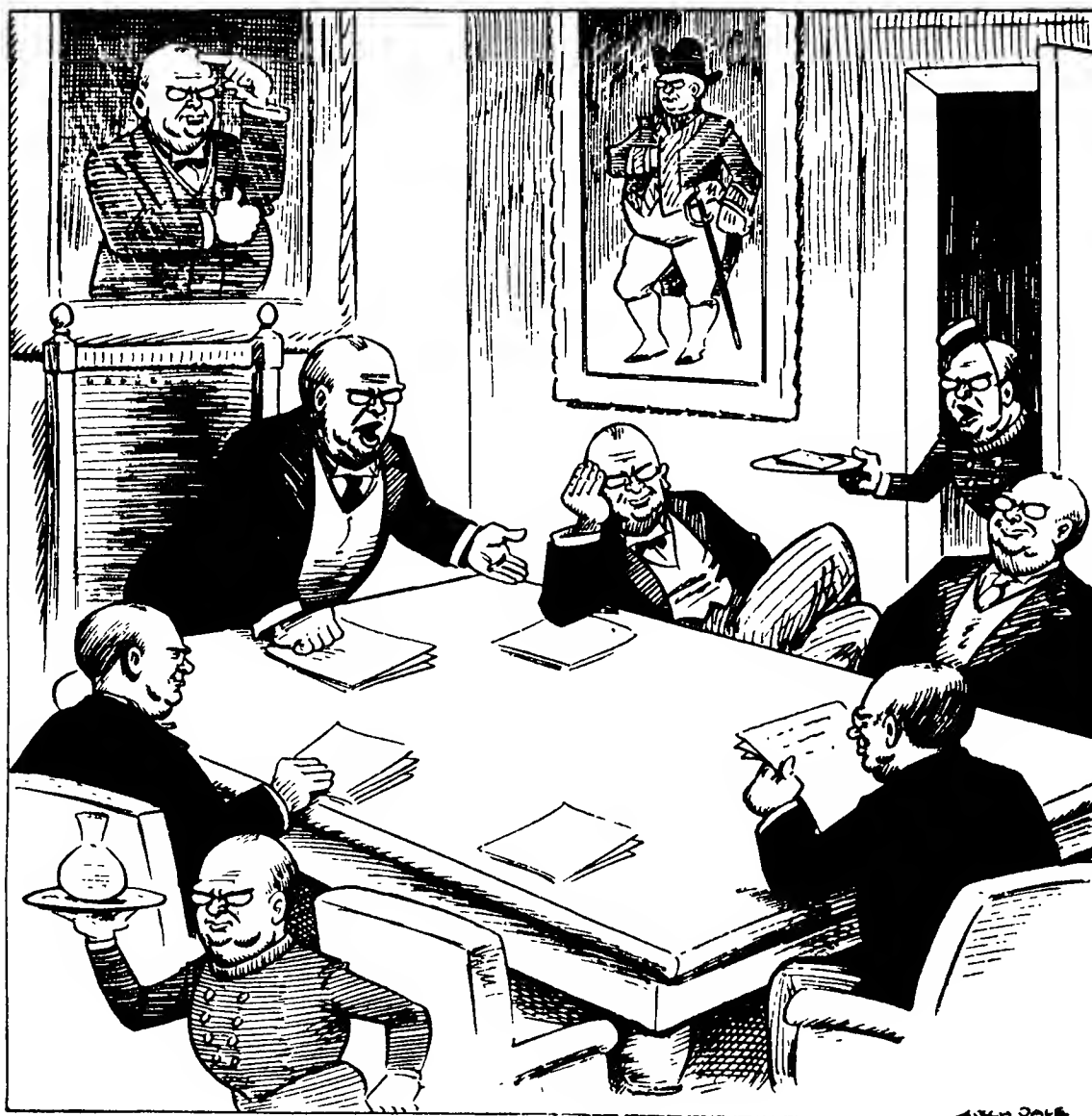
### GETTING TO WORK ON FOREIGN MARKETS

Mr. Bennett then spent a few days in France, his first opportunity, as Dale saw it, to "blast his way into foreign markets." (Nov. 22, 1930.)



### WAITING FOR HIM

On Mr. Bennett's return to Canada he got his first inkling that his belief (so honestly and sincerely held) that High Protection would end the slump, was wrong. (Dec. 11, 1930.)



### "MY GOVERNMENT"

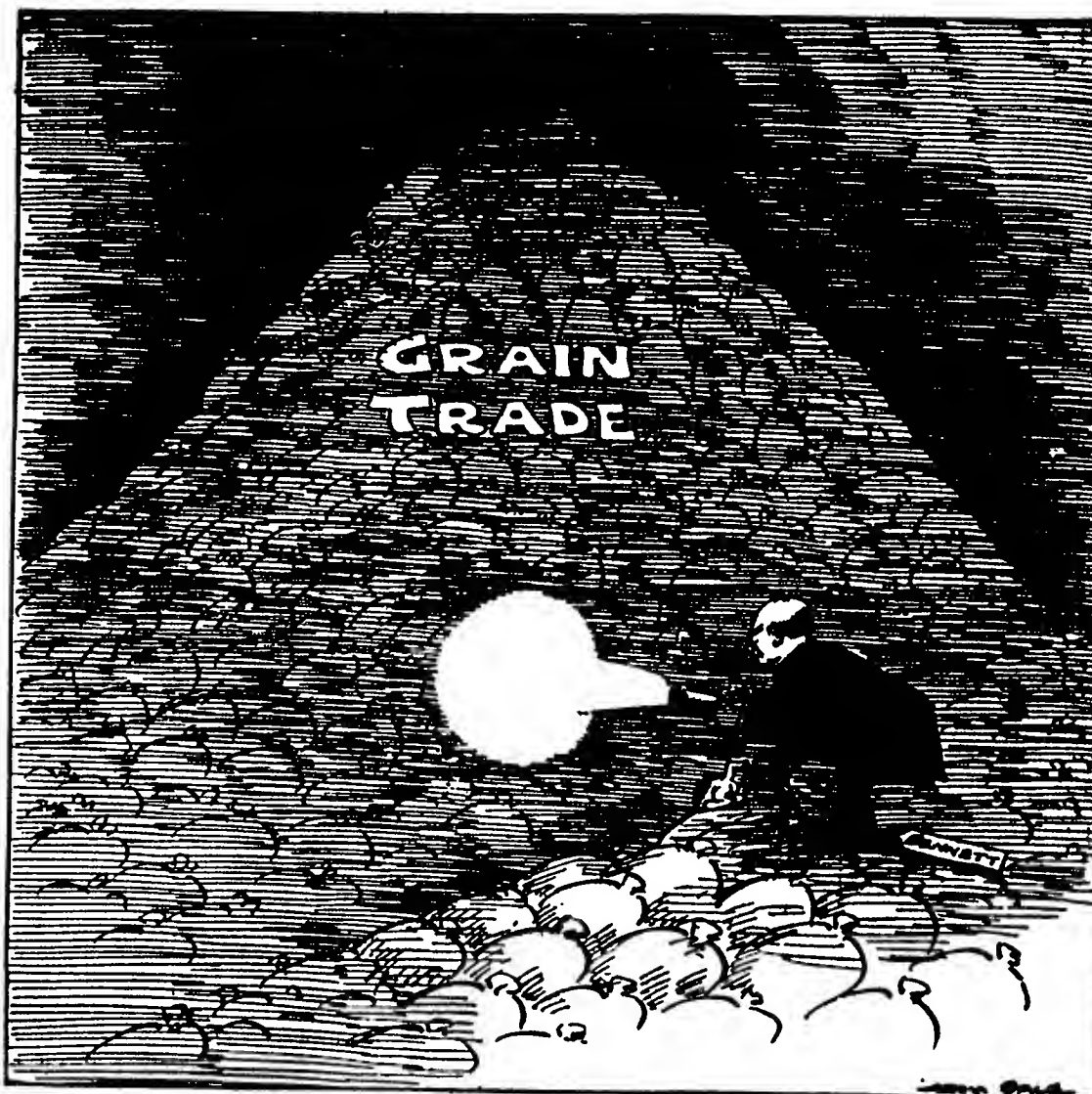
Dale jumped at a peculiar, uncommon phrase used by Mr. Bennett in a speech, wherein he referred to "My Government," a phrase usually reserved for the King. Dale's happy inspiration reflected a belief which in 1935 is widely held, that Canada had acquired a One Man Show. (Jan. 19, 1931.)





### NO TRUCK WITH THE RUSSIAN PEDDLER

The first of several cartoons indicating Mr. Bennett's moral and economic scruples against any dealing with Soviet Russia. (Mar. 2, 1931.)



### LOOKING FOR THE NIGGER IN THE GRAIN PILE

Mr. John I. McFarland was already installed as Government wheat agent, and rumor was abroad that speculative manipulation was driving prices down. (Mar. 4, 1931.)



**R.B.'S IDEAL: TAKING IN EACH OTHER'S WASHING**  
A sharp jab at one of Protection's fundamental fallacies. (Mar. 10, 1931.)



### CRASHED

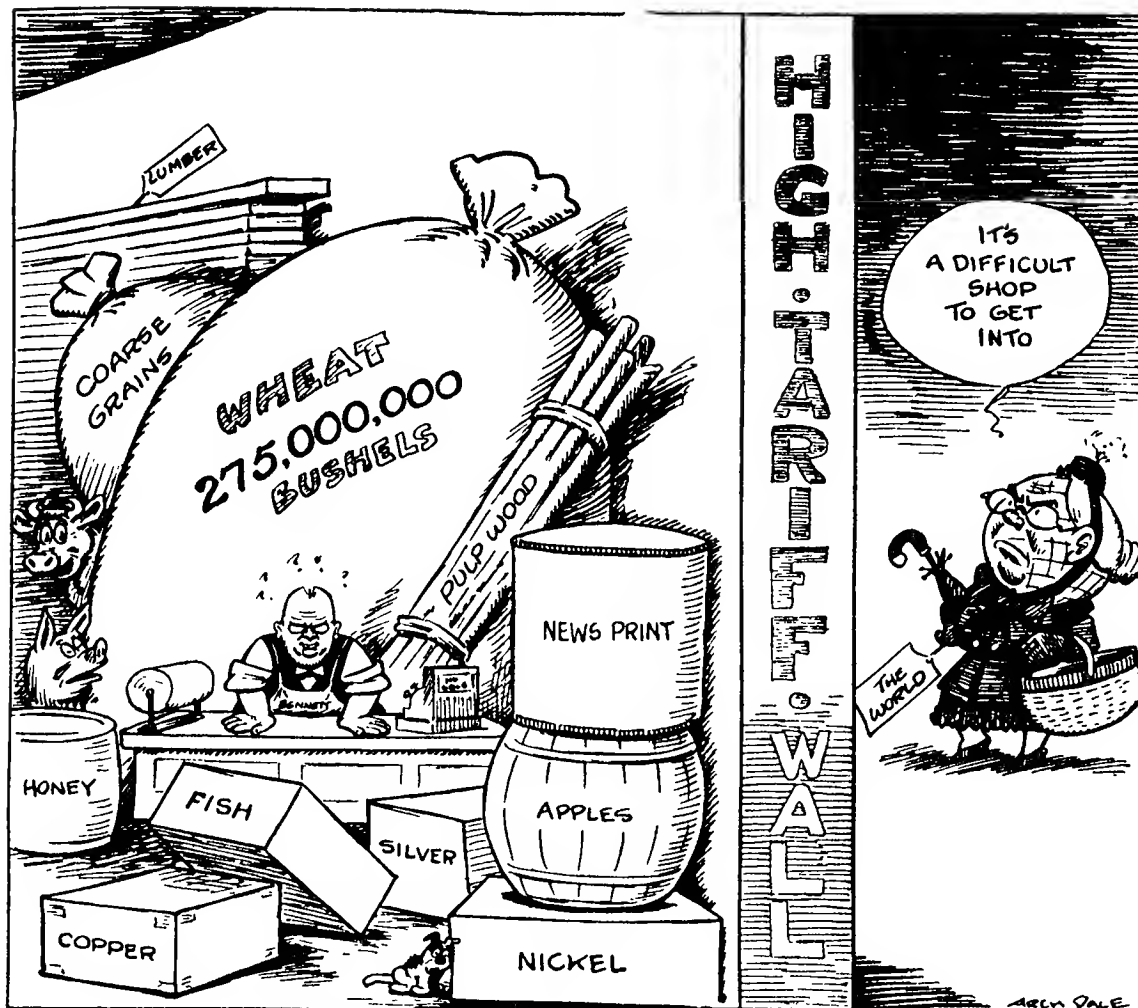
The first and unsuccessful attempt by the Government to kill the western airmail which ultimately was continued for another year. (April 2, 1931.)



#### HIGH PRESSURE WORK

Fears of wheat market manipulation led to the greased lightning visit and report of Sir Josiah Stamp, noted English economist, who strongly endorsed futures trading. (April 14, 1931.)





### HE WONDERS WHY THE GOODS DON'T MOVE

A pungent comment on the folly of believing that you can sell without buying in return.  
(April 14, 1931.)



**WILL HE BUNCH HIMSELF TOGETHER?**

Reports that the size of the Cabinet would be reduced led to Dale's useful and original suggestion.  
(April 27, 1931.)



HE GOT WHAT HE ASKED FOR

Reflecting the enormous success of a big Canadian conversion loan. (May 27, 1931.)



### A POOR LOOKOUT FOR THE YOUNG ONE

The Free Press has never relaxed its efforts for the Hudson Bay Railway, and rumors that no appropriation was coming up for it led to Dale's drawing the babe in the wood. (July 18, 1931.)



**UNEASY LIES THE HEAD THAT WEARS A CROWN**

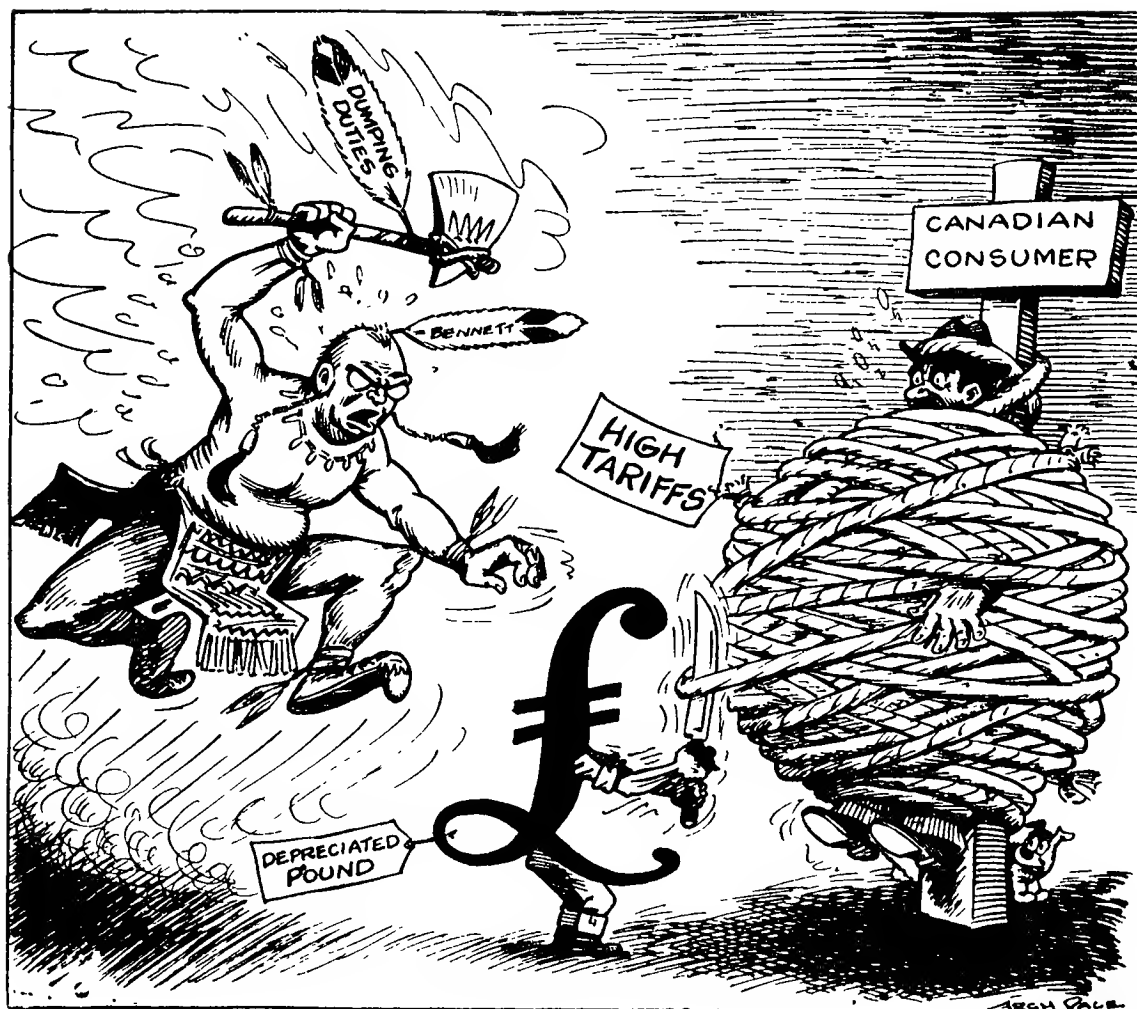
As the depression deepened, Dale depicted the growing troubles gathering around the Prime Minister.  
(Sept. 16, 1931.)





### HIS NEXT PROBLEM

As the pound sterling was driven off gold, the Canadian dollar also depreciated, and what about it?  
(Sept. 28, 1931.)



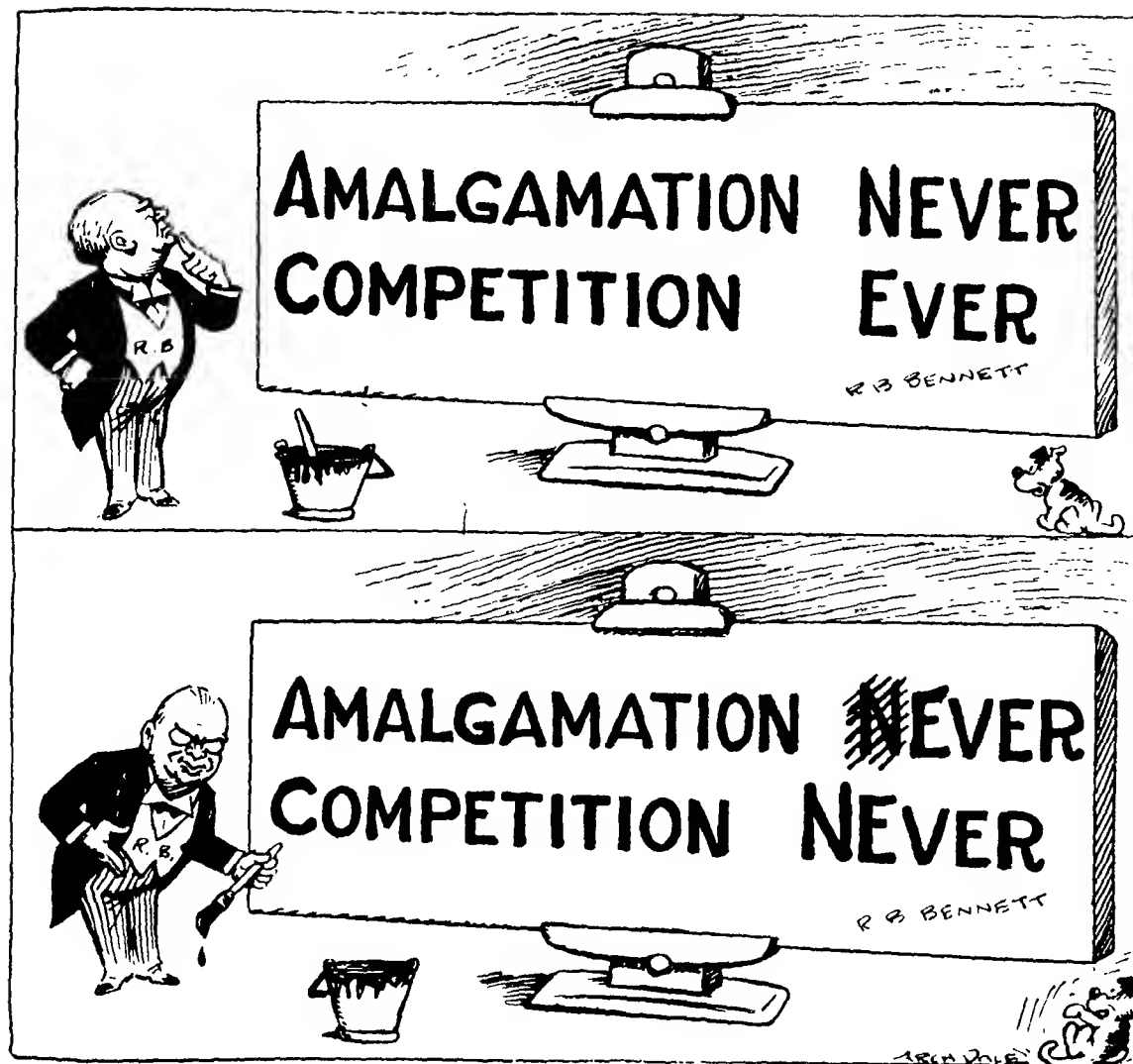
### ON THE WARPATH AS USUAL

When the pound sterling depreciated, British goods found it easier to enter Canada. The Government slapped on dump duties. (Oct. 2, 1931.)



### IT COULD ONLY LEAD TO DISASTER

Well-grounded fears that a drive was in progress against the Canadian National led to a stern warning in the Free Press editorial pages. (Oct. 19, 1931.)



POLICIES CAN BE CHANGED

The same subject met the same treatment, and an election promise was recalled. (Dec. 11, 1931.)



### THE SPECTRE AND ITS WARNING

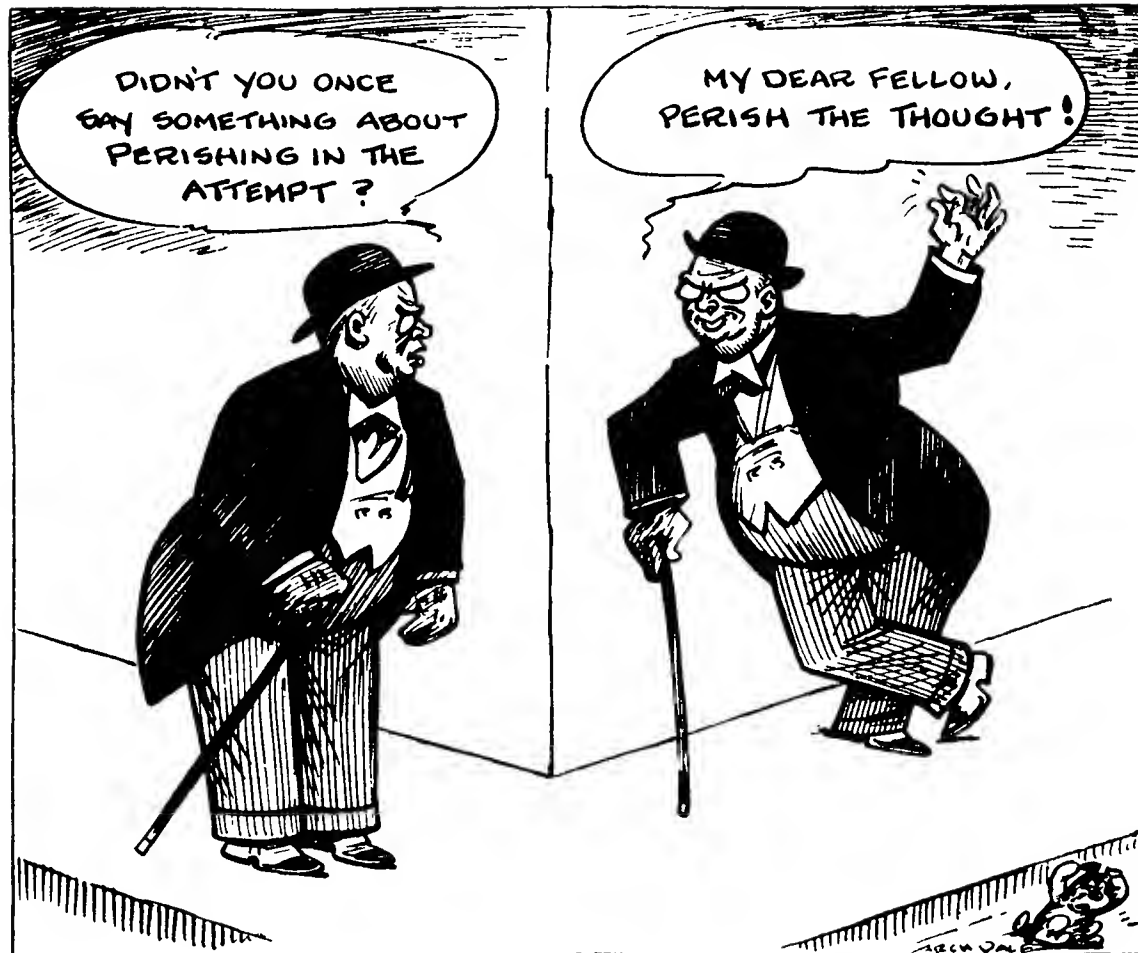
Although Mr. Bennett, in his campaign had declared unemployment was a national problem, constant attempts were made to push much of the load upon the provinces and municipalities. (Jan. 11, 1932.)





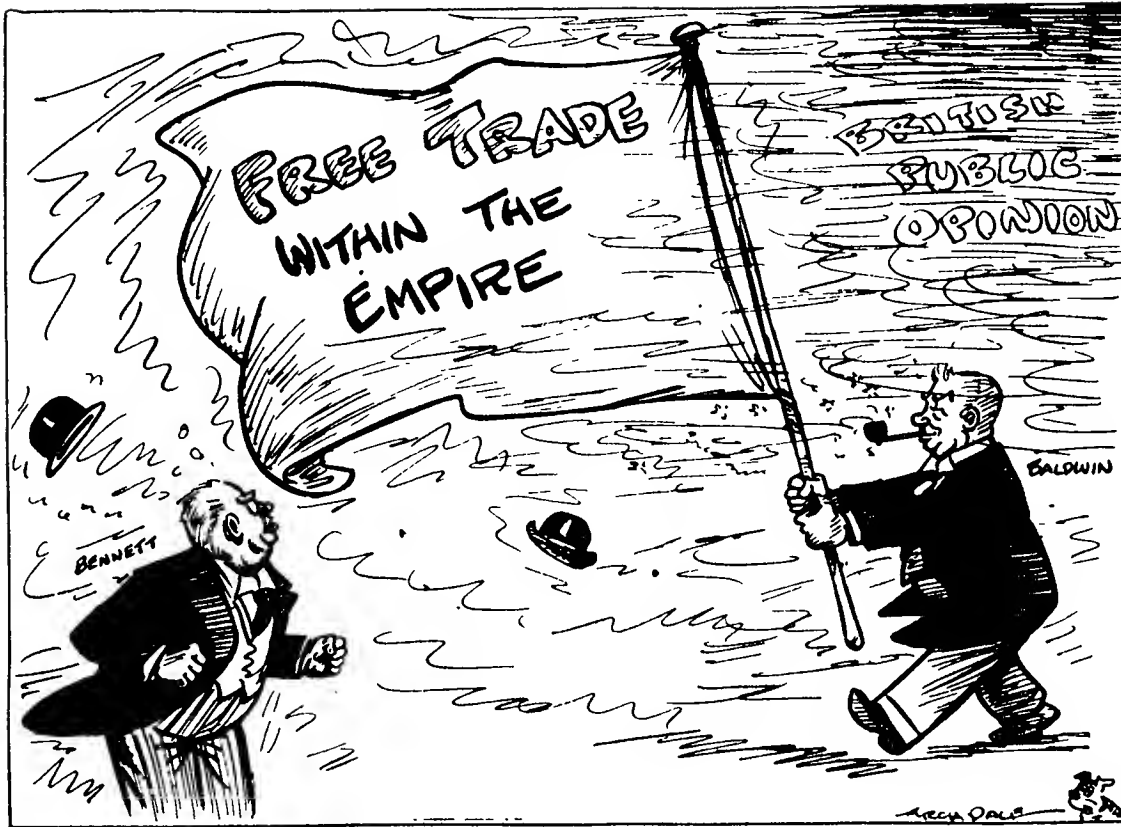
IS THIS WHAT MR. STEVENS BROUGHT HOME?

Negotiation of a trade agreement with New Zealand giving that country concessions on butter recalled the vehement campaign of 1930 against the Liberal Government's iniquity in permitting entry of butter from the Antipodes. (Jan. 26, 1932.)



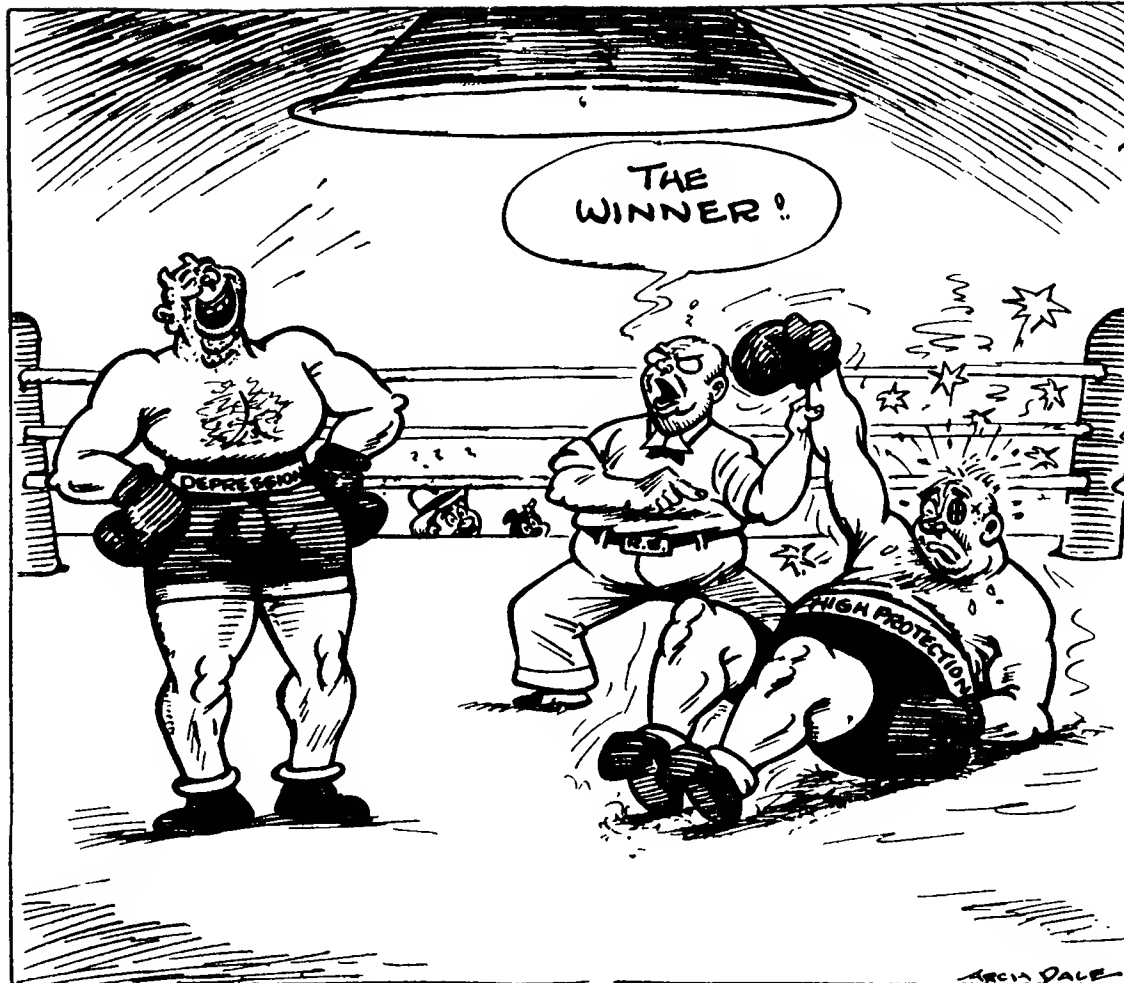
### THE HAPPY WARRIOR

Dale depicts the Prime Minister chatting with his best friend. (April 29, 1932.)



### THE BANNER WITH THE STRANGE DEVICE

With the history before him of Mr. Bennett's work in boosting tariffs against British goods, Dale depicts the Canadian Prime Minister's reaction to a speech by Mr. Baldwin. (June 20, 1932.)



### ANOTHER REFEREE'S DECISION

Speaking at London, Ont., Mr. Bennett said he had neither excuse nor apology for putting his high tariff policy into effect. Dale made the necessary comment. (June 23, 1932.)



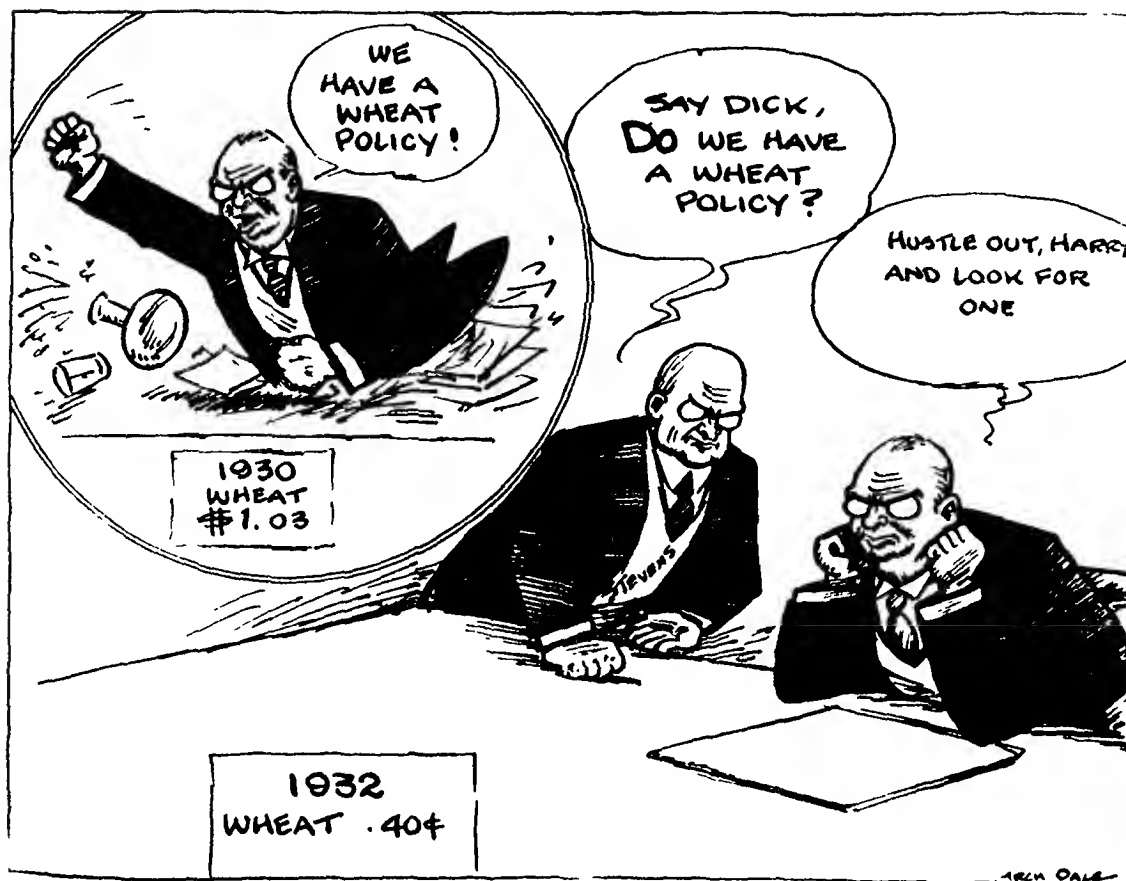
### THE FAITHFUL WORSHIPPER

The effect of High Protection upon the country, and Mr. Bennett's continued worship at the shrine, evoked a powerful drawing. (Nov. 5, 1932.)



### "THE CREAKING OLD MILL"

Borrowing from Strube of the London Express, Dale again reverted to the theme of High Protection's effects. (Nov. 17, 1932.)



### THE SEEKERS

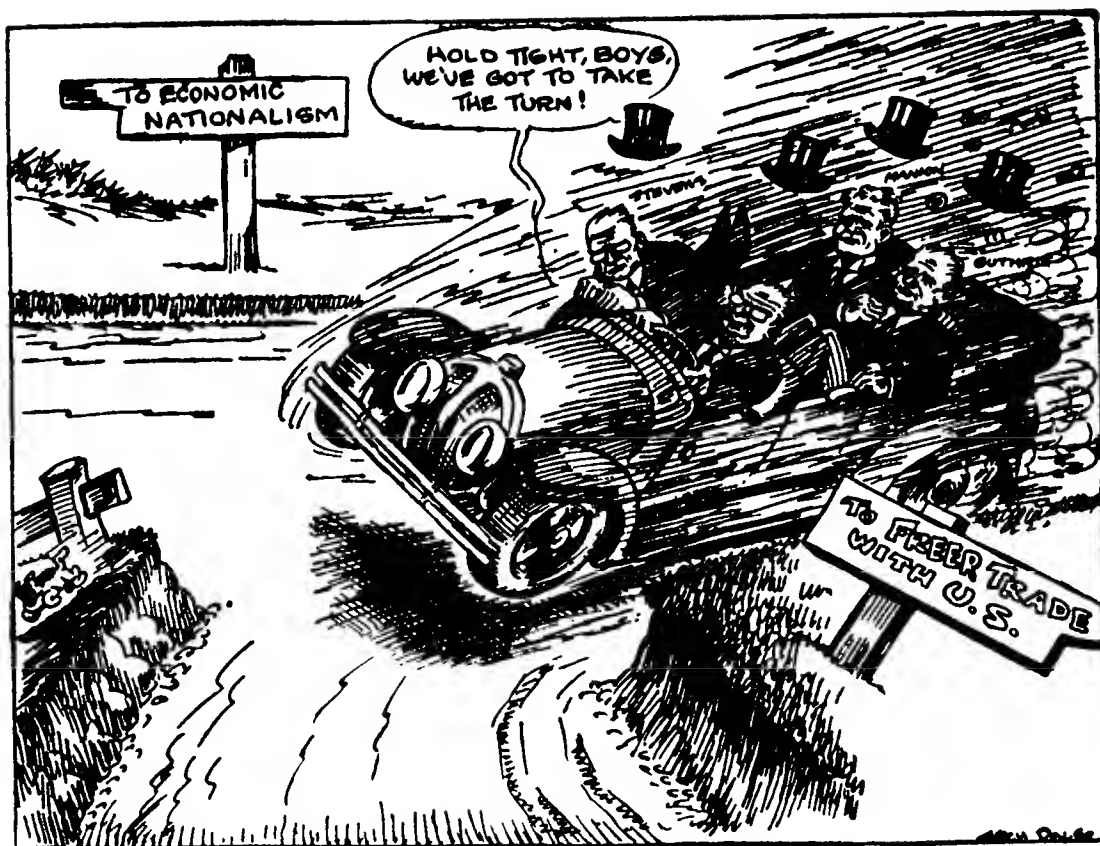
Low wheat prices recalled the proud promises to the farmers made in 1930. (Dec. 20, 1932.)





### THE OUT-AT-ELBOWS GANG STAGES A RAID

Reports that the Government was opening negotiations for a reciprocity trade treaty with the United States led to continued comment. (March 1, 1933.)



**PUTTING A STRAIN ON THE OLD MACHINE**  
Reciprocity again formed a fruitful subject for satire.



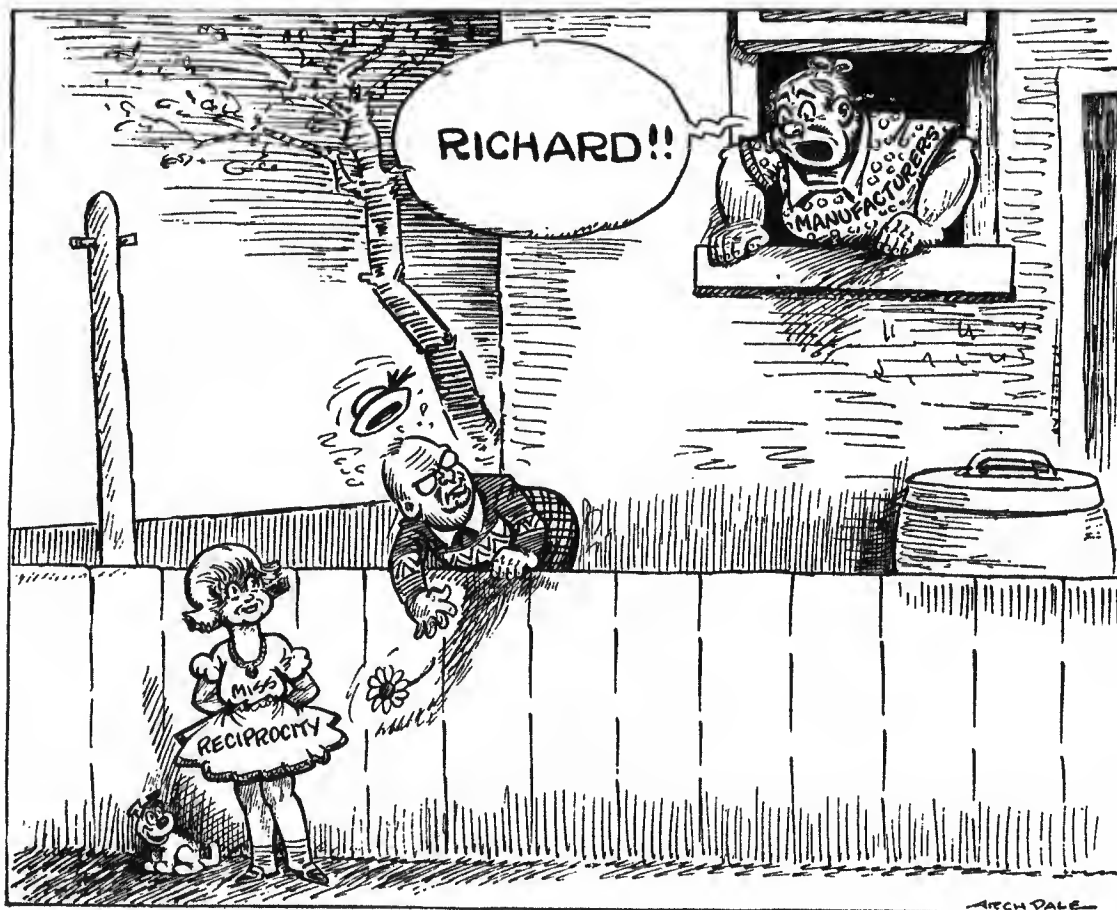
### WHAT ABOUT THAT RUSSIAN TRIP ?

After hanging fire for some time, a proposal by a private citizen to be allowed to stage direct barter of western goods for Russian coal and oil, came up for further consideration. (March 2, 1933.)



### "THE KID FROM CANADA"

Shortly after President Roosevelt's inauguration Mr. Bennett paid a state visit to Washington, which reminded Dale of Eddie Cantor's well known song that season. (April 22, 1933.)



### THE WANDERING BOY

Another treatment of the reciprocity negotiations which lent itself to endless variations on the protectionist theme. (May 3, 1933.)



### WATCHMAN, HE'S PULLING A FAST ONE

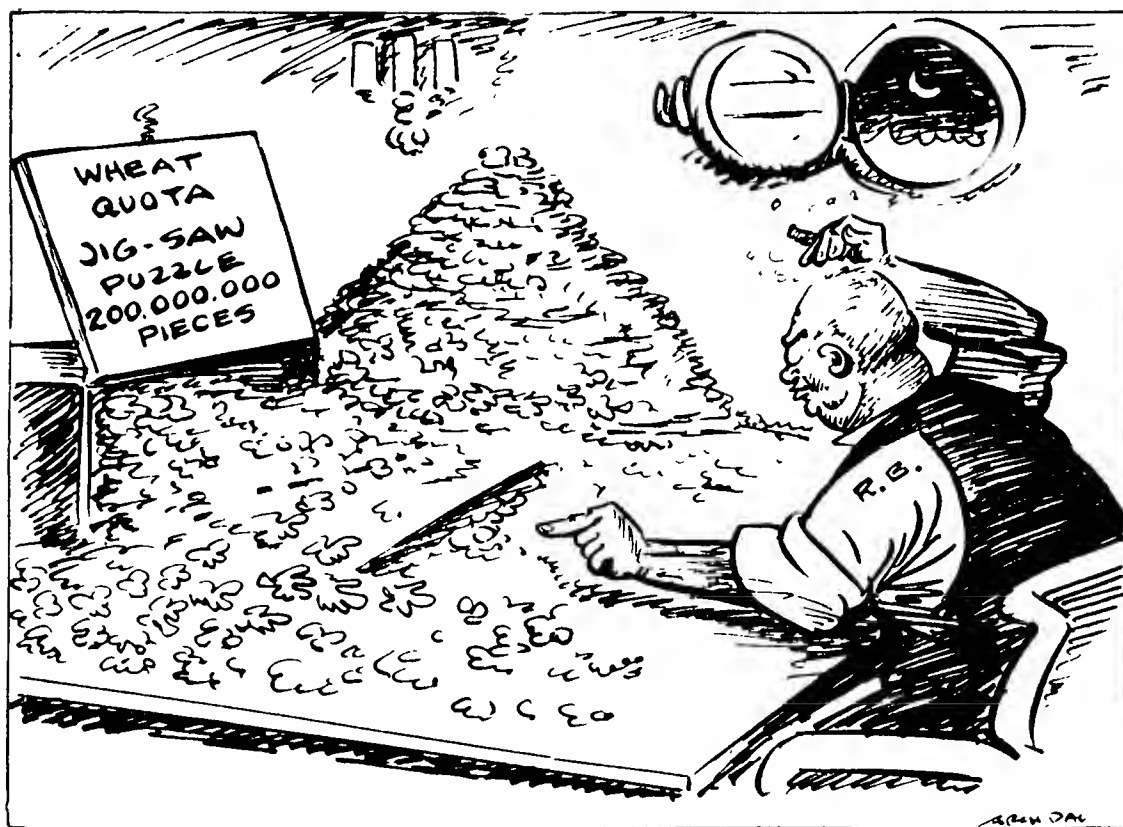
When the Beauharnois power scheme was finally taken over by other interests in a slick re-organization scheme, the Free Press recalled the virtuous protests of Mr. Bennett a year before. (May 9, 1933.)



**YES, THEY'RE ALL FEELING VERY SAD**

The ignominious collapse of the World Economic Conference found Mr. Bennett playing a role on a larger stage. (July 25, 1933.)





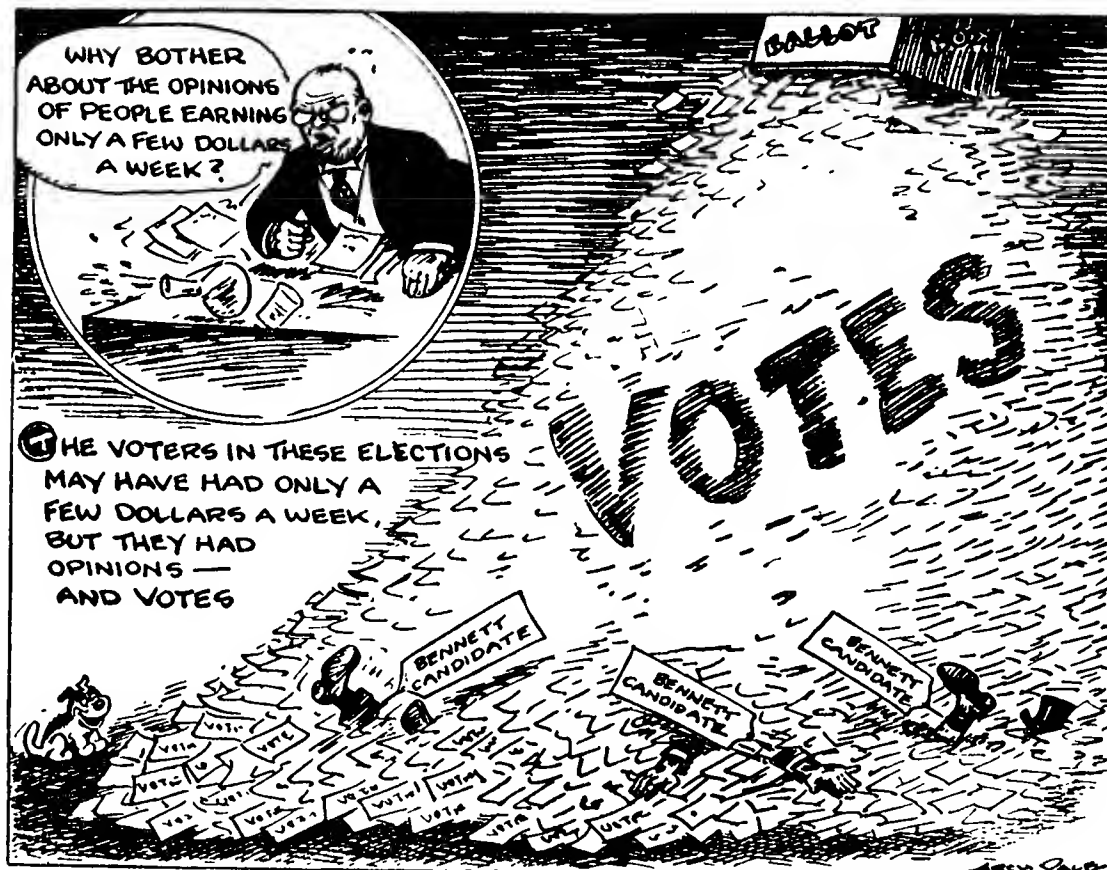
### A GRAND PUZZLE TO BRING HOME

But Mr. Bennett brought home the International Wheat Agreement, and Dale found it very, very hard to take it seriously. (Aug. 30, 1933.)



### THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND

Mr. Bennett came west on his return from London, and the Free Press greeted him with some aspersion.  
(October 2, 1933.)



### THE NEW DOCTRINE LACKS POPULAR SUPPORT

On Oct. 11, 1933, Mr. Bennett made some reference to the probable lack of knowledge of "editorial writers earning a few dollars a week." The chance was too good to be missed. (Oct. 30, 1933.)



### THE REAL SOURCE OF HIS WORRY

In another speech Mr. Bennett said we were making progress, but slowly. He was anxious, he said, to avoid another boom. (Dec. 5, 1933.)



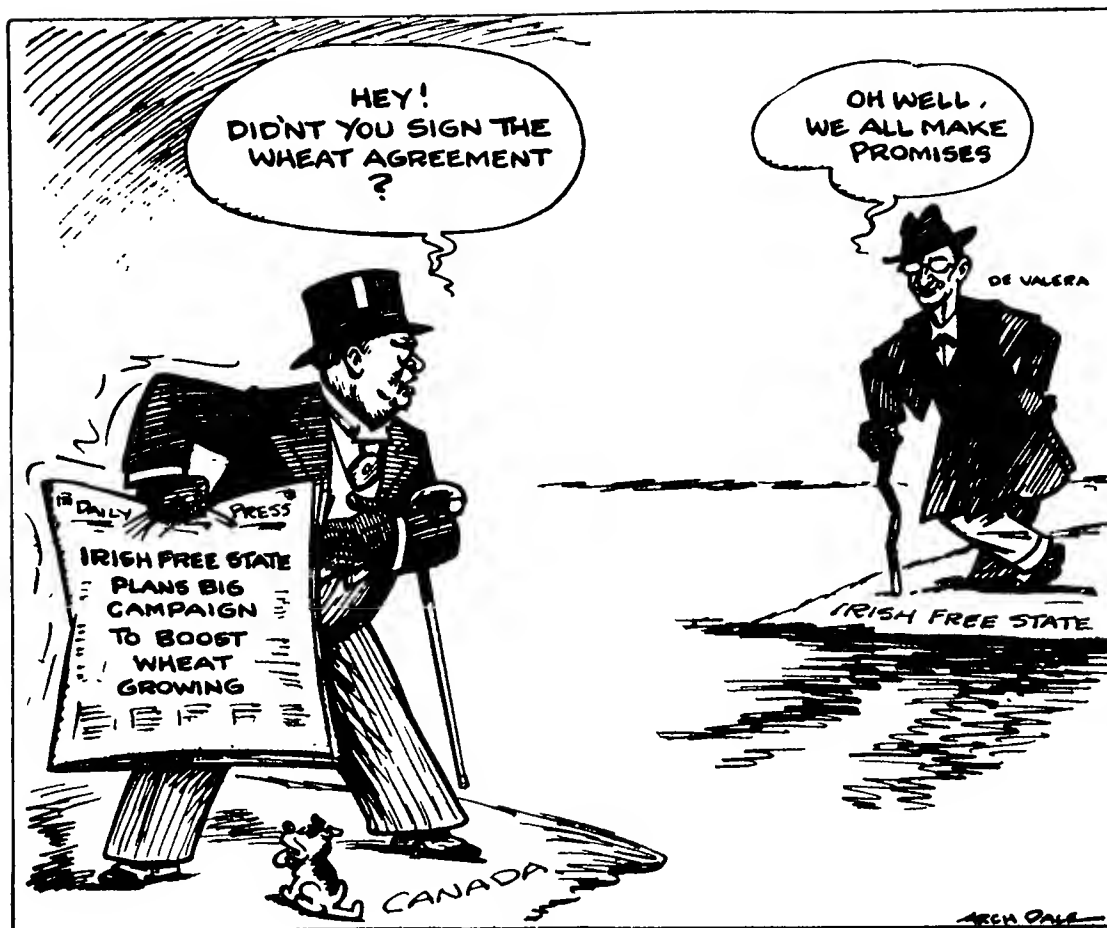
### UNDER OBSERVATION

The restoration of titles at New Year's called for fast comment. (Jan. 3, 1934.)



### A HORSE OF ANOTHER COLOR

Poor little Mr. Citizen always has the sympathies of Arch Dale, and here is an example of the public reaction to the talk of returning prosperity. (Feb. 1, 1934.)



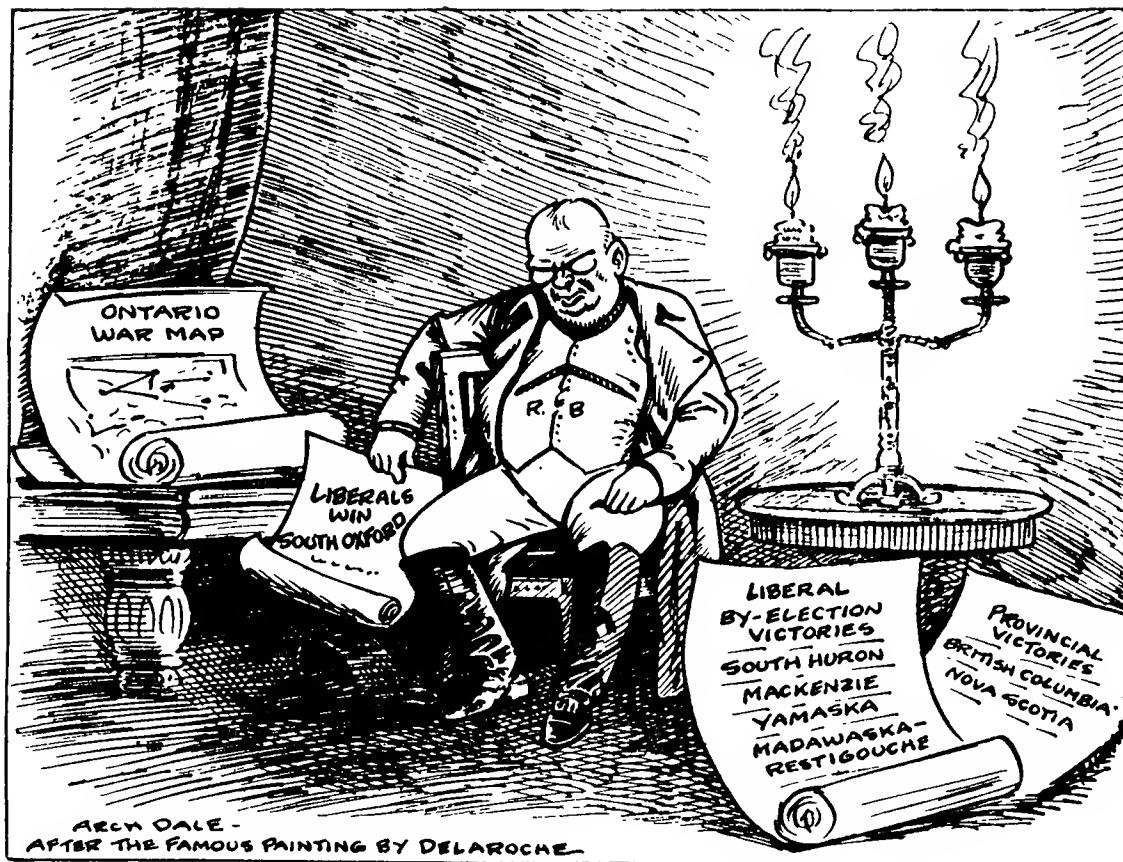
#### AS BETWEEN PRIME MINISTERS

News that the Irish Free State intended to increase wheat acreage recalled that all signatories to the useless International Wheat Agreement had pledged themselves not to do so. But we all make promises.  
(March 13, 1934.)





Further comment on the return of titles after 15 years of absence. (March 16, 1934.)



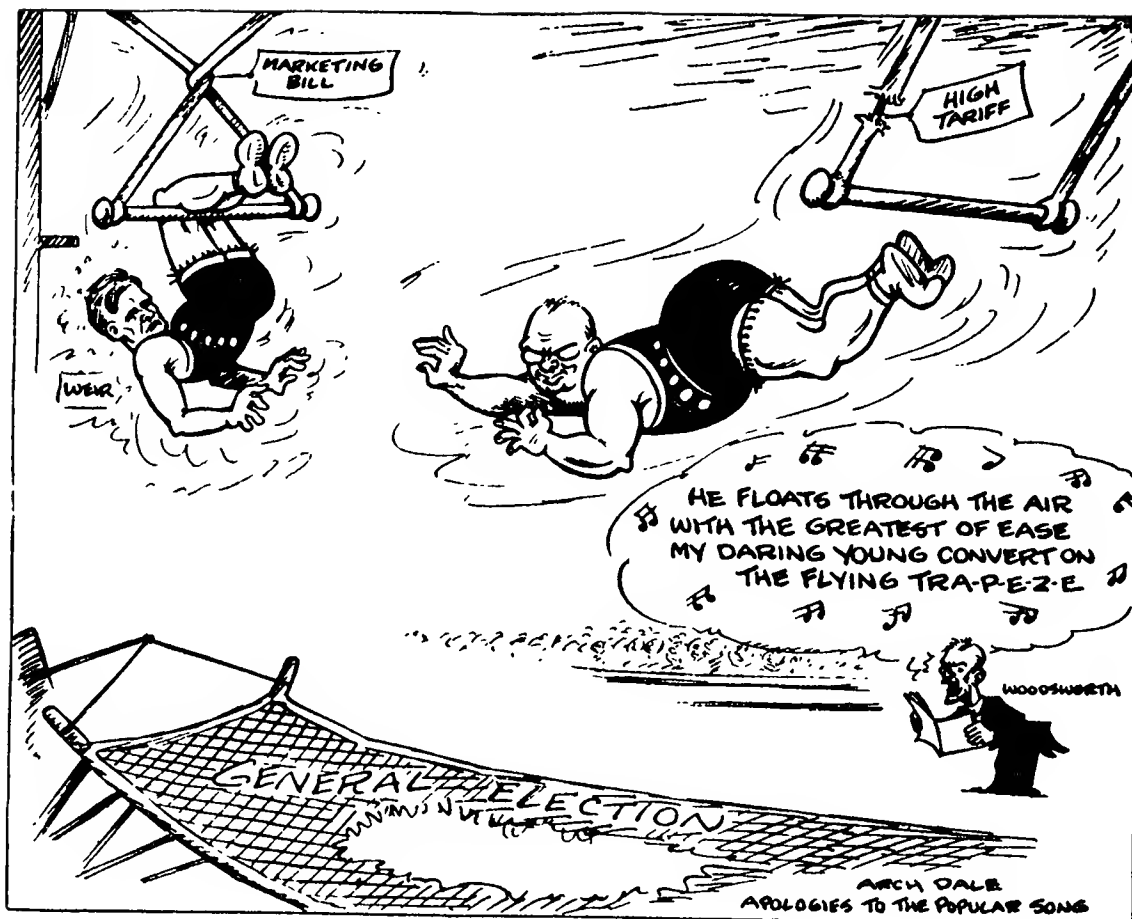
### THE LAST PHASE?

A Liberal victory in the South Oxford by-election suggested that further defeats lay in the offing.  
(April 18, 1934.)



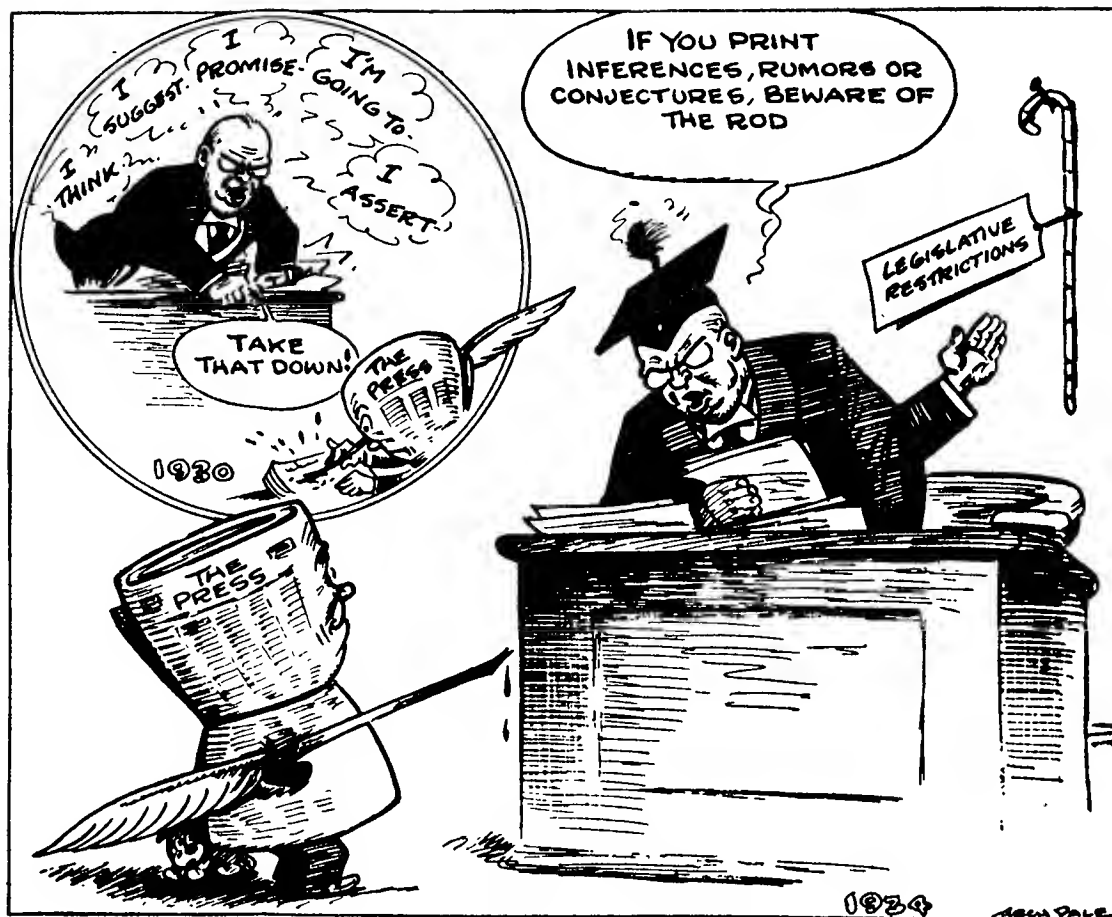
### THE TOY VENDOR

Introduction of the Natural Products Marketing Act suggested the Government was making undue claims about it. (April 16, 1934.)



### IN THE AIR

Further debates on the Marketing Act led to the suggestion that Mr. Bennett was taking to controlled marketing now that the high tariff had done its best (or worst) for him. (May 1, 1934.)



### CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES

Mr. Bennett threatens to invoke the direst penalties of the law on the printing and publication in newspapers of rumors tending to bring the country or himself as representing it into contempt. (May 22, 1934.)



### CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, 1934

After the Prime Minister had been to England for another visit, the Free Press issued its customary welcome on his return. (Oct. 13, 1934.)



### THE BOSS, THE CARPET, AND THE BOYS

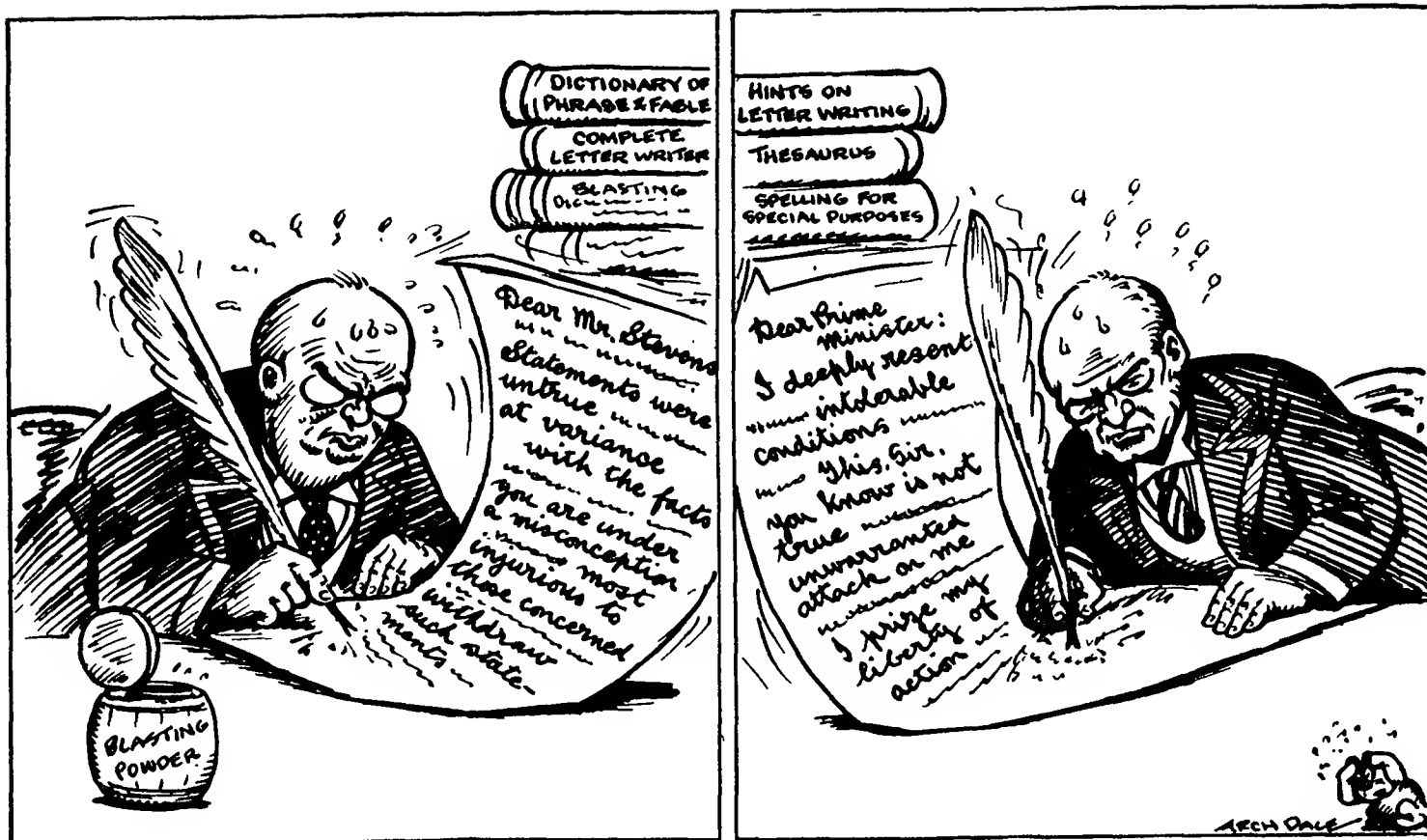
It was generally understood that Mr. Bennett was all set to deal with his colleagues as well as his problems on his return. (Oct. 23, 1934.)





### CASUALTIES OF THE CRISIS

The prompt resignation of the Hon. H. H. Stevens showed this was the case—but what effect would it have upon Conservative prospects? (Oct. 29, 1934).



### OTTAWA CORRESPONDENTS

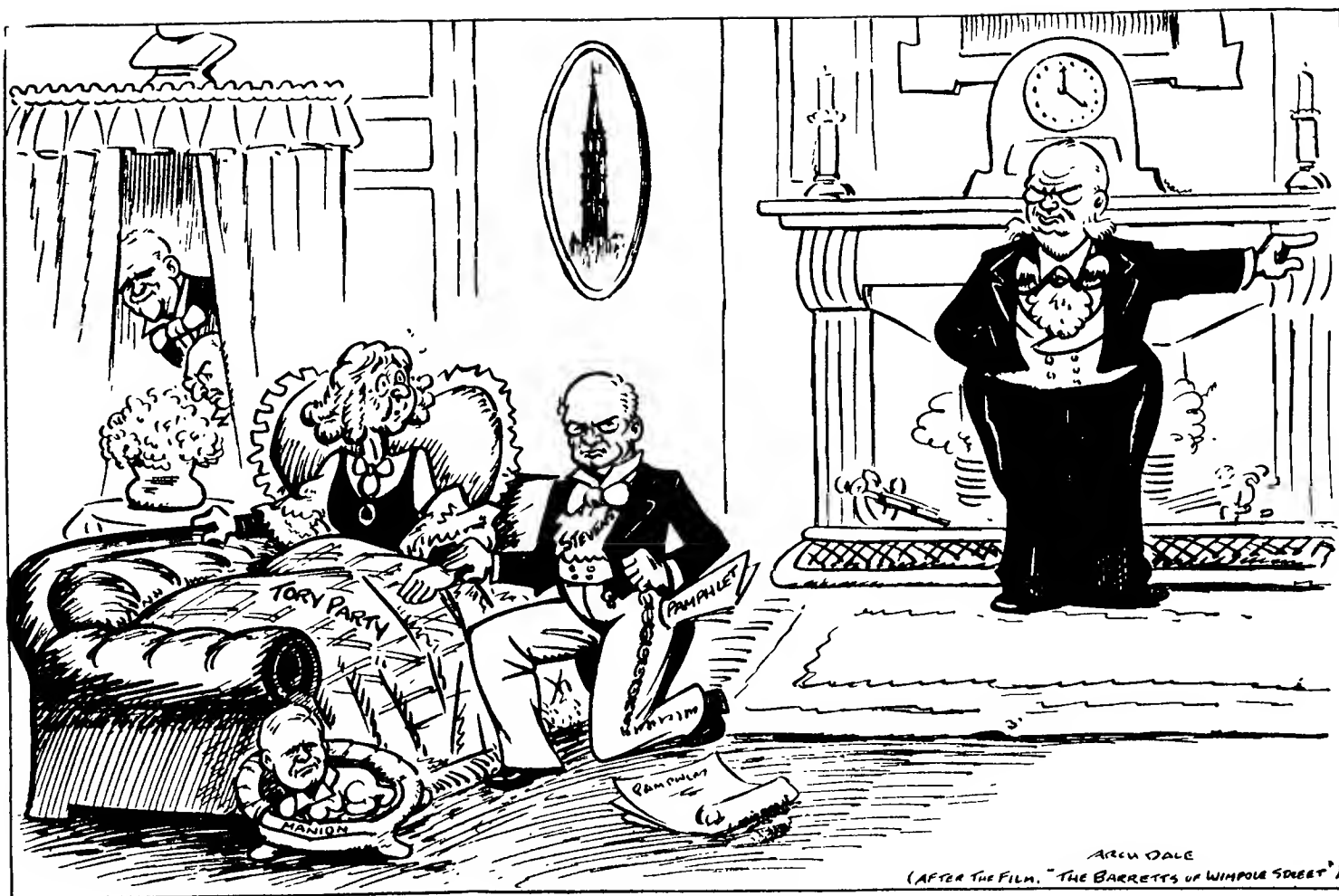
The talent for invective and controversy that was displayed after Mr. Stevens had resigned was worth comment. (Oct. 31, 1934.)

LIKE ONE THAT ON A LONESOME ROAD  
 DOTHS WALK IN FEAR AND DREAD,  
 AND HAVING ONCE TURNED ROUND WALKS ON,  
 AND TURNS NO MORE HIS HEAD. -  
 FROM "THE ANCIENT MARINER"



### THE TRAVELLER

The growing difficulties surrounding the Government's last year gave Dale a spooky idea. (Nov. 2, 1934.)



### THE BENNETTS OF PARLIAMENT HILL

"The Barretts of Wimpole Street" gave Dale another chance to expand on the confusion which the Stevens defection (or was it defection?) had brought in its wake. (Nov. 16, 1934.)



### ANTICIPATIONS

On November 26, Mr. Bennett told his Calgary fellow-townsmen that the government would be "triumphantly returned to office," but Dale decided he was whistling like the little boy in the graveyard at night. (Nov. 27, 1934.)



### THE CHANGING FACE

As the Government grew older and more weighed down with its problems, Dale's cartoons reflect the increasing discomfiture of the Prime Minister. (Nov. 29, 1934.)



### PRETTY BUBBLES IN THE AIR

Taking advantage of the reduction in legal gold coverage regulations for the Dominion note issue, mild inflation was practised by the Government. (Dec. 19, 1934.)



### THE OLD PEDDLER COMES BACK

This was the first of many cartoons joyfully taking advantage of the sudden change of front shown by Mr. Bennett in his "New Deal" broadcasts early in 1935. (Jan. 4, 1935.)





### THE VERDICT OF HIS PEERS

The defence of his administration made by Mr. Bennett during his broadcast speeches gave another opportunity to emphasize the one-man character of the Government. (Jan. 7, 1935.)



**SCHOOL'S IN—EXAMINATIONS LATER**

Dale here depicts the striking similarity between the Bennett "New Deal" and the C.C.F. platform.  
(Jan. 17, 1935.)



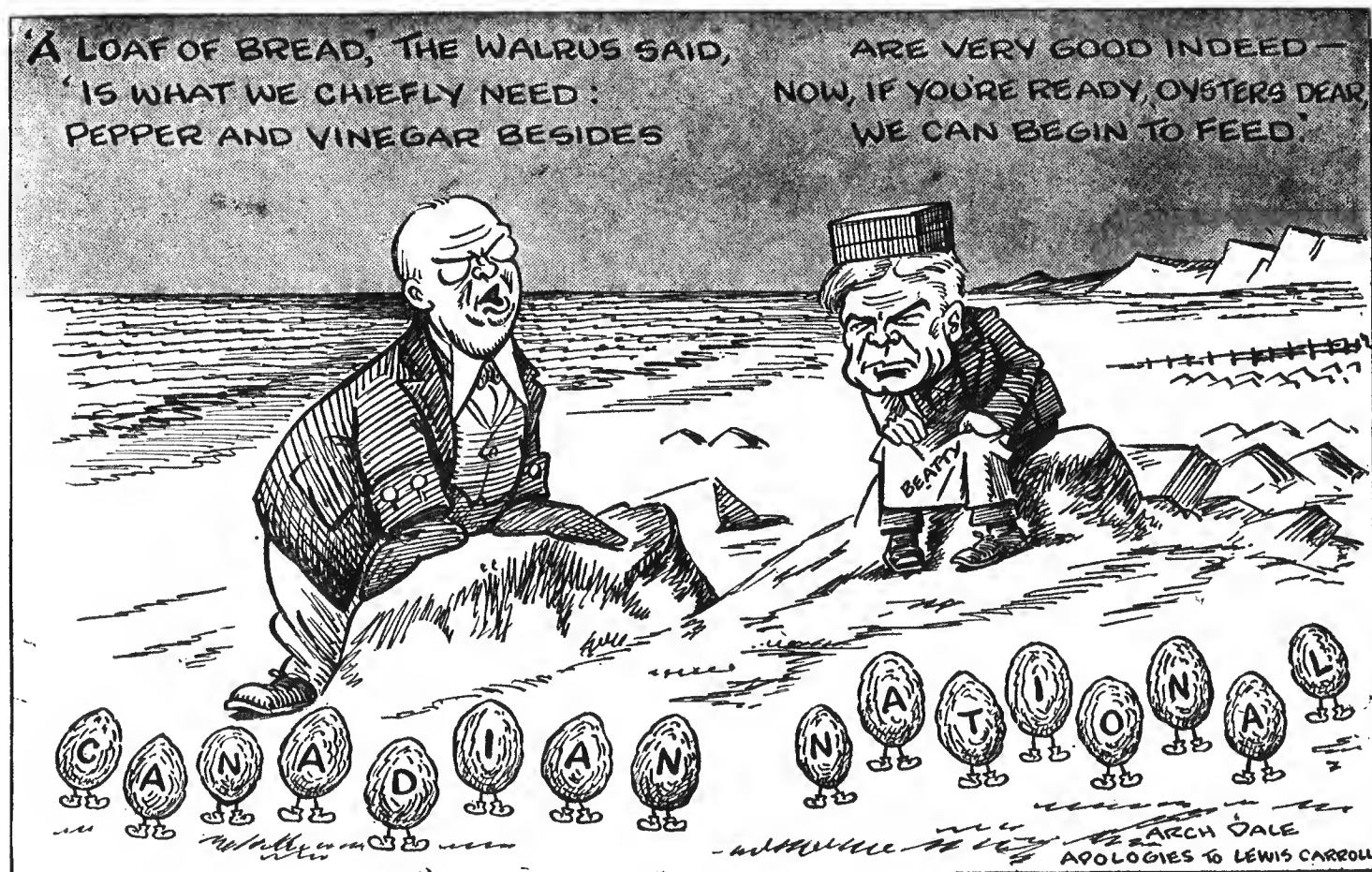
### PLUG HAT AND ALL

Two days later Dale again dealt with the same theme in one of the most popular of his pictures.  
(Jan. 19, 1935.)



### SHADES OF TAM O' SHANTER

The curious nature of the Bennett *volte face* gave Dale, himself a Scot, a chance to place the situation in a Scottish setting.  
(Jan. 24, 1935.)



### THE COMING FEAST?

The Free Press has never been able to accept wholeheartedly Mr. Bennett's *bona fides* on the railway question, and has shown constant vigilance in the protection of the C.N.R. (Feb. 8, 1935.)



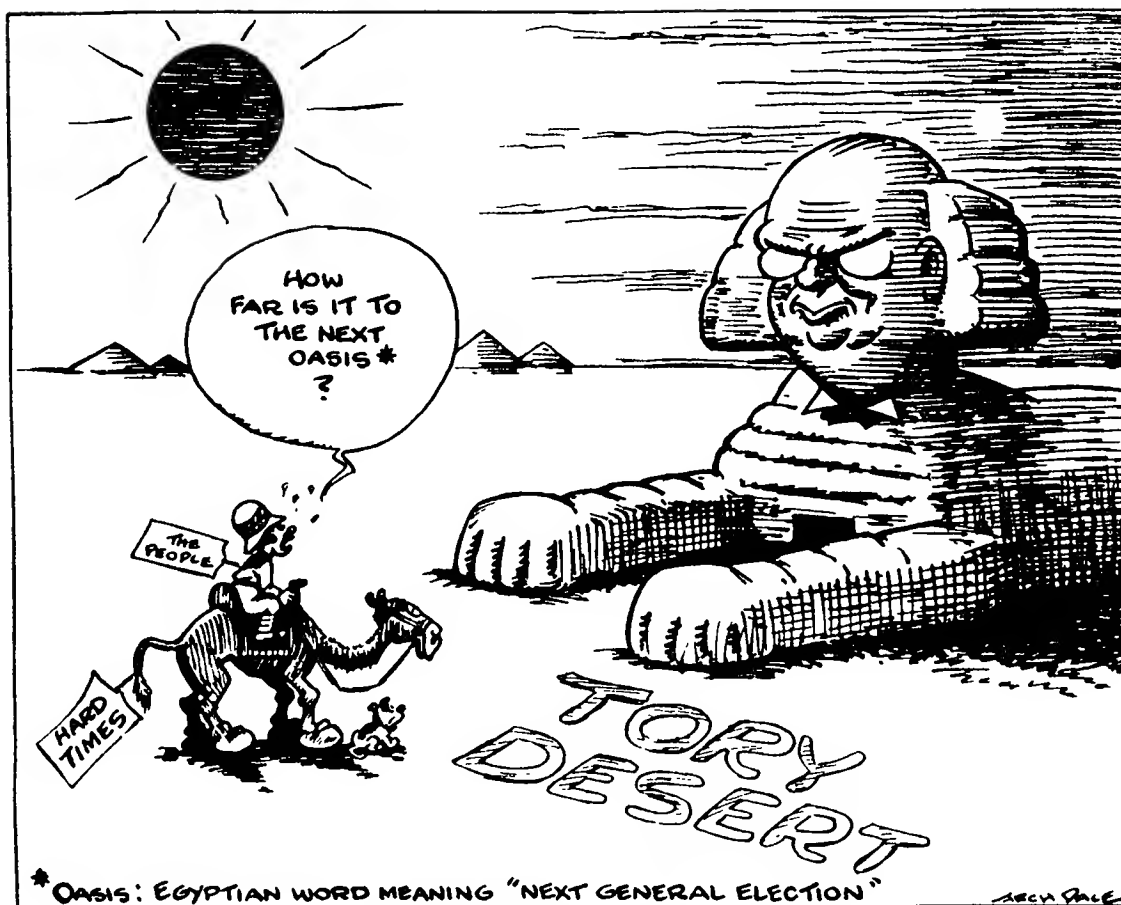
### OLD-FASHIONED MEDLEY

Here Dale hints that expedience may play some part in Mr. Bennett's desire for the reform of the capitalist system. (Feb. 15, 1935.)



### CLEAR THE TRACKS

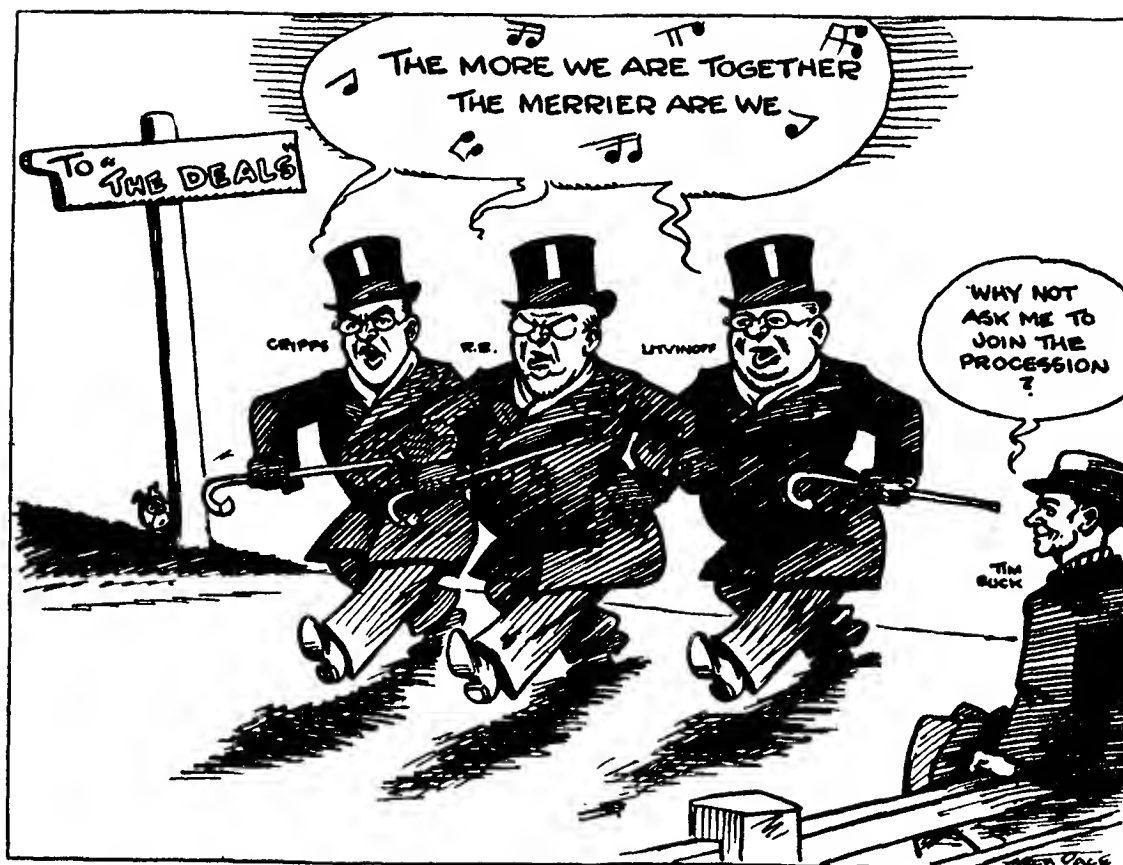
Reports that Judge Fullerton, chairman of the board of trustees of the Canadian National, was standing out against interference by Dr. R. J. Manion, minister of railways, lay behind this cartoon. (Feb. 22, 1935.)



### THE SPHINX'S INSCRUTABLE SMILE

A plaintive request to the Government to learn what date Mr. Bennett had fixed for the election.  
(Feb. 26, 1935.)





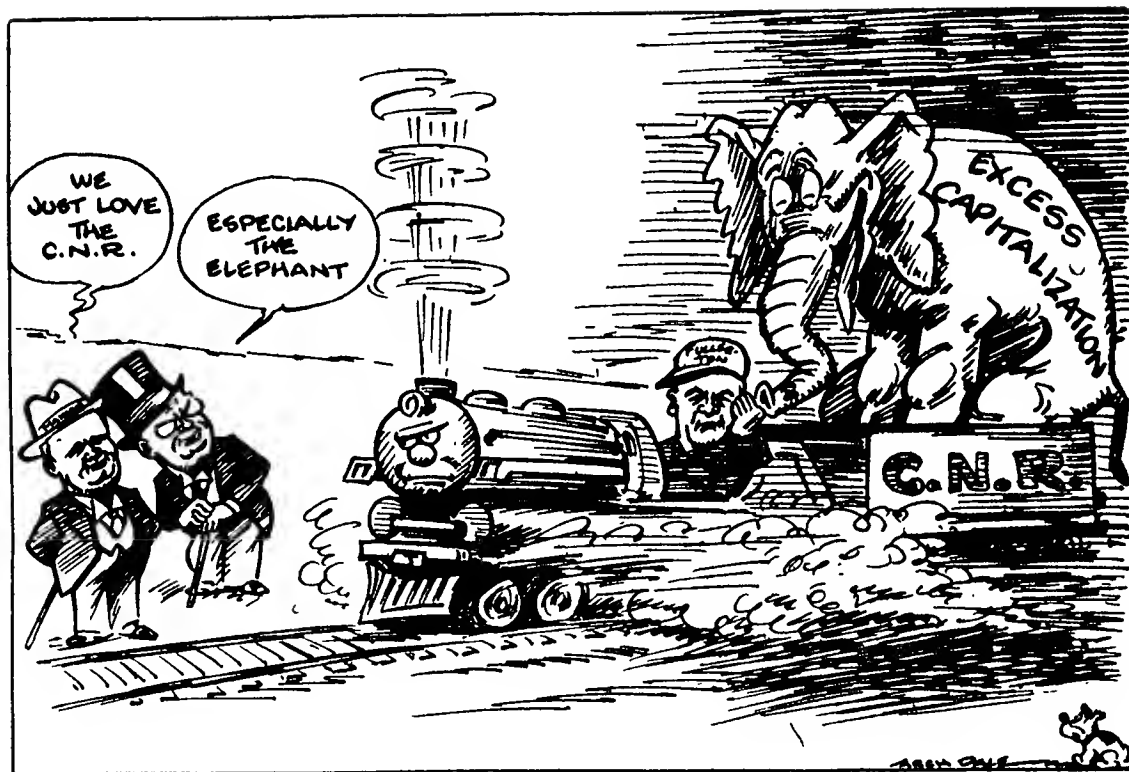
### THREE JOLLY FELLOWS

Speaking at Montreal, Mr. Bennett said his talks with M. Litvinoff of the Russian Soviet government and his reading of John Strachey's Communist writings had influenced him greatly. (Mar. 5, 1935.)



### THE GLADIATORS GET READY FOR ACTION

On Mr. Bennett's return from a short visit to London, Dale made his usual greeting. (May 21, 1935.)



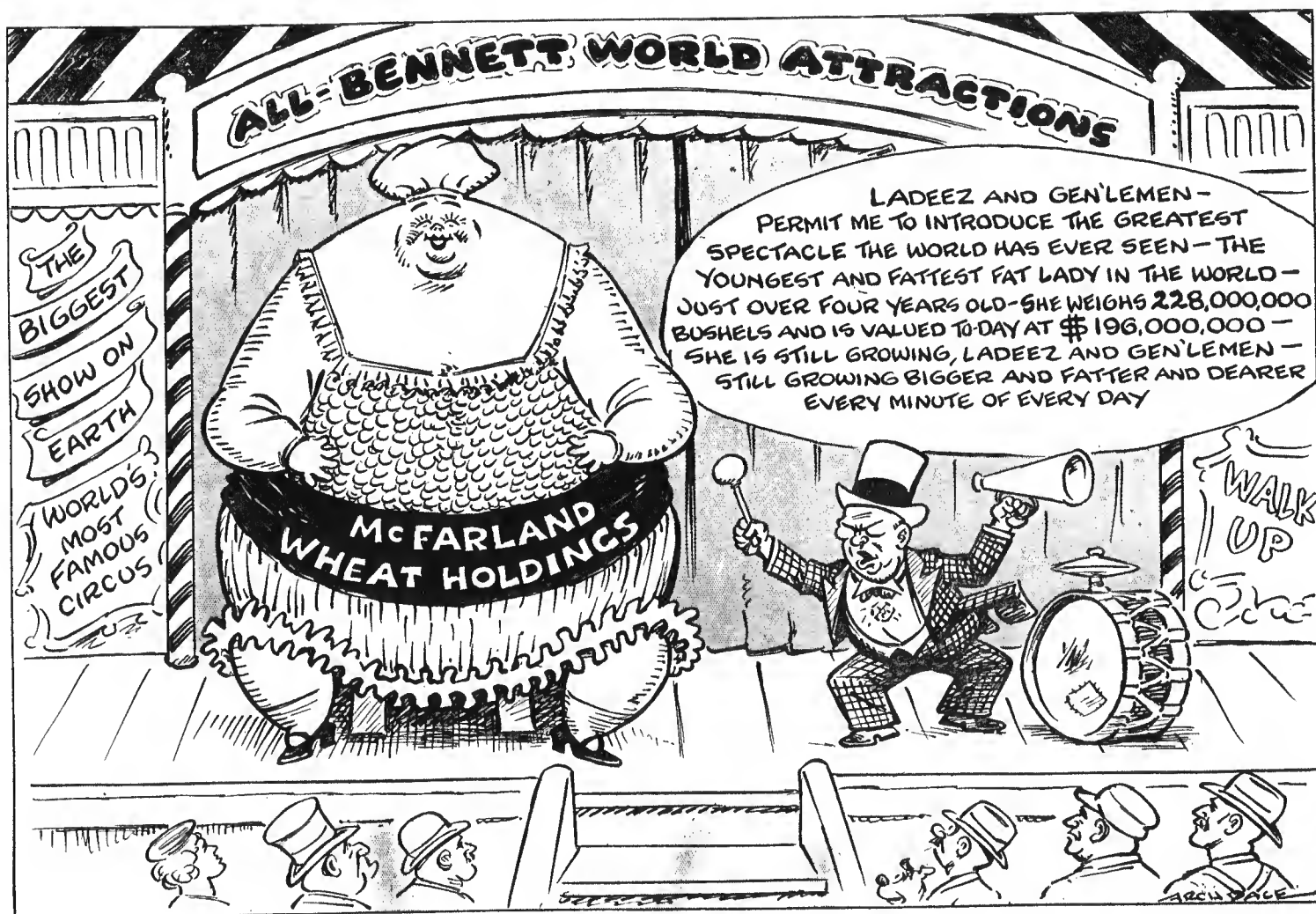
### THE SACRED BEAST OF PARLIAMENT HILL

Refusal of Mr. Bennett to consider the recapitalization of the Canadian National financial structure lay behind this drawing. (June 1, 1935.)



### PIE CRUST PROMISES

As the On-to-Ottawa relief camp strikers crossed the Prairies, Dale recalled Mr. Bennett's Regina campaign speech of five years before. (June 14, 1935.)



### THE STAR EXHIBIT

Publication of the stabilization transactions carried out by the Government in the wheat market, through the agency of Mr. John I. McFarland, led to this drawing. (June 29, 1935.)



### AN ANSWER WANTED

The bloody riot at Regina on Dominion Day between camp strikers and police led to the asking of a pointed question of Mr. Bennett. (July 3, 1935.)



**SUMMER STYLES, 1935**

A good natured jibe at the Prime Minister's autocratic methods. (July 6, 1935.)



#### A SQUABBLE IN THE POLITICAL NURSERY

Mr. Bennett's eagerness for reform, it is hinted, was prompted to some extent by the political activities of Mr. Stevens. (July 9, 1935.)





### DESERTING THE DOOMED CASTLE

The first appointments to the many vacancies in the senate, the civil service and on the bench were being made. (July 23, 1935.)



### EXCELSIOR

A warning of the danger in an election campaign. (Aug. 3, 1935.)



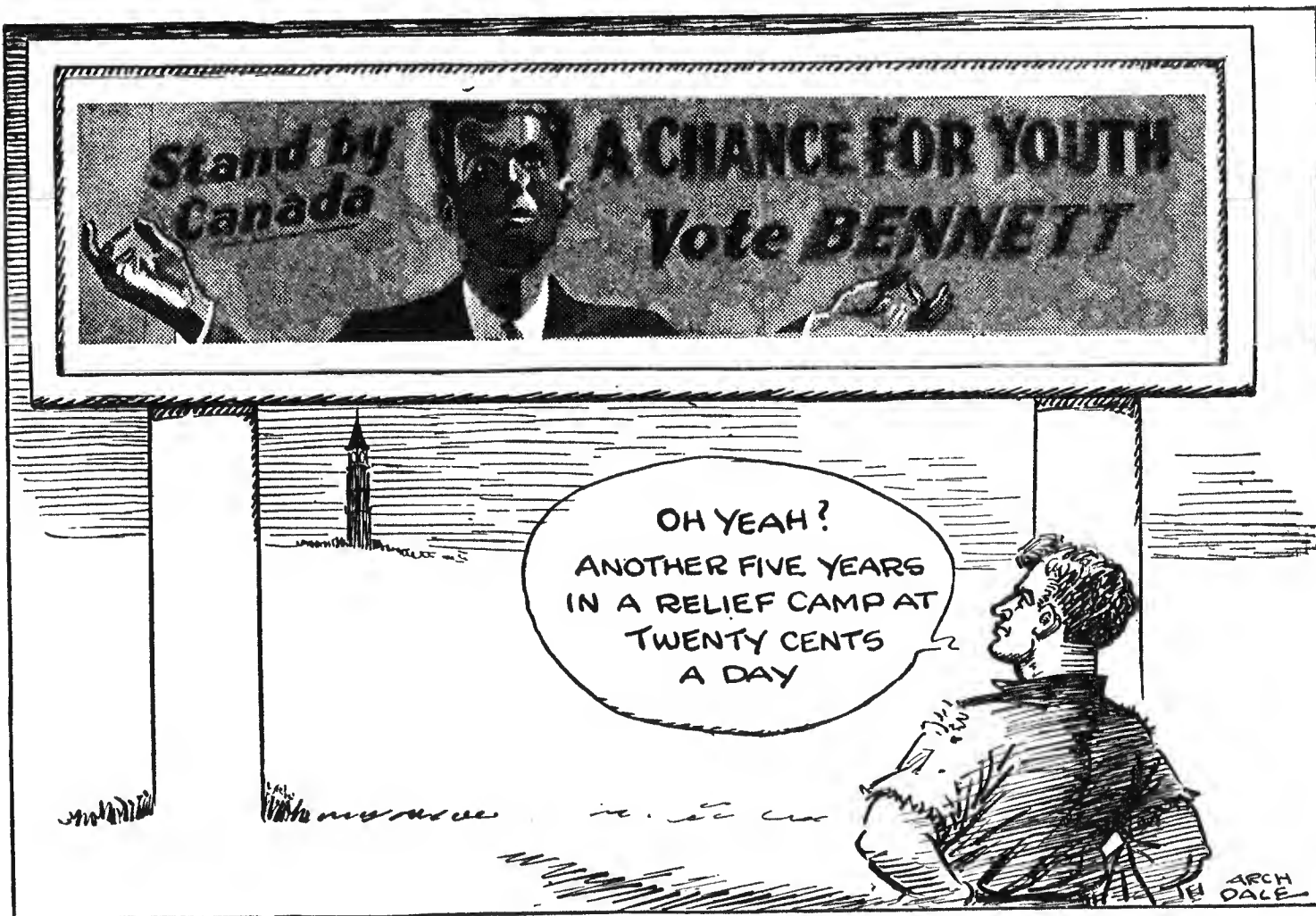
### THE EVE OF WATERLOO

The amazing series of defeats suffered by the Conservative Party, federally and provincially, was believed to be giving Mr. Bennett something to think about. (Aug. 7, 1935.)



### SHIVERING ON THE BRINK

When would the election day be announced? One reason for the failure appeared in the cartoon. (Aug. 13, 1935.)



#### YOUTH RECOGNIZES THE ANSWER

Appearance of the Conservative posters on the hoardings, and the announcement of the election date, led to this sharp comment on youth's reaction to the Government. (Aug. 16, 1935.)

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